

BLACK DIAMOND
WESTERN

AUTHORIZED
A. C. M. P.

CONFORMS
to the
COMICS
CODE

BLACK



10¢

DIAMOND

WESTERN

JD PDC

JAN.
NO. 42

3

FEATURE-LENGTH
BLACK DIAMOND
ILLUSTORIES

LEV GLEASON, PUB., CHARLES BIRO AND BOB WOOD, EDITORS

HO! HO!
HE! HE!
HO! HO!

WHA...WHAT IZ
ZEE? A HORSE
CHARGES LIKE
ZEE B..BULL!

HA! HA!
THEES IZ ZEE
END OF ZEE
GREAT BLACK
DIAMOND, EH,
AMIGOS?

IF BLACK
DIAMOND CAN
HOLD ON JUST
A MINUTE LONGER!
JUST LONG
ENOUGH FOR
ME TO...



WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM





ELECTRONIC WALKIE TALKIES

ELECTRO-MAGNETIC CHASSIS,
U. S. GOVERNMENT PATENT NO. 2,536,179



TWO-WAY COMMUNICATIONS: Set consists of TWO (2) "Transceivers" ready to hook up between any two points. No license needed! Powered by new patented Remco electro-magnetic chassis. Practical, foolproof operation is guaranteed.

BROADCAST OVER HOME RADIO: Either or both of your Walkie Talkies can be hooked up so you can talk into them and hear your voice come out of the radio speaker. "Broadcast" from another room or another part of the house. Mystify your friends—plan your own radio programs and announcements.

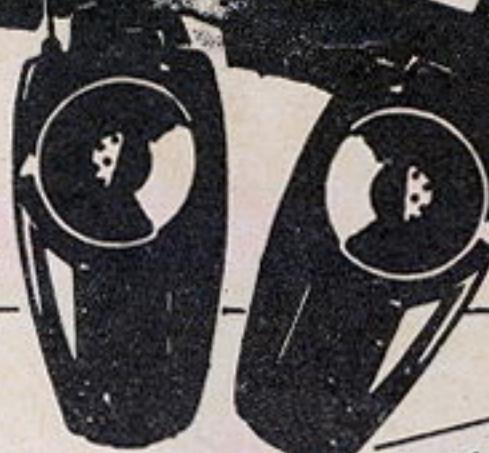
RECEIVE LOCAL BROADCAST STATIONS: Your Walkie Talkie can easily be converted to the broadcast band and thus serve as your own private radio receiver.



The REMCO plug-in crystal adapter and special aerial attachment will permit reception on broadcast frequencies. Adapter, aerial attachment only \$1.98 (Optional). Sets are ruggedly constructed of high quality injection molded plastic: engineered for utility and extra long service. This is not a kit but a factory tested and guaranteed communication system. Guaranteed — or your money refunded in full.



EMPIRE MDSG. CO., 63 CENTRAL AVE., OSSINING, N. Y.



Certificate of Guarantee

If either of your Walkie Talkie Sets should stop operating for any reason, our factory engineers will repair and return it to you at absolutely no cost.

TWO-WAY
WALKIE TALKIES
only
\$3 49
postpaid
2 SETS
COMPLETE

100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED! We will refund your money in full within five days if these Walkie Talkies fail to do the amazing things stated in this ad.

MAIL THIS COUPON!

EMPIRE MERCHANTISING CO. DEPT. W-10, Send check, cash, or M.O. 63 Central Ave., Ossining, N. Y.

Send 2 Walkie Talkie units _____ Price \$3.49
 Send complete Walkie Talkies plus adapter and aerial _____ Price \$5.47
 Full payment enclosed. Rush order post-paid.
 \$1 deposit enclosed. Will pay postman balance plus charges.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____



At the unbelievably low price of only \$1. (plus a 25¢ charge for wrapping, mailing and tax) you can own these all-time Cowboy Hits. Every recording is a full-length one—songs and orchestration and will play on any 78 rpm player or changer. Records are pure vinylite, tough, virtually unbreakable.

YOU GET THESE GREAT RECORDINGS

HOME ON THE RANGE
OLD CHISHOLM TRAIL
LAST ROUNDUP
RED RIVER VALLEY
BOOTS AND SADDLES
COWBOY JACK
BILLY BOY
BURY ME NOT

A \$3.00 VALUE — A SAVING OF MORE THAN 250%

They are full size 10" records, each one plays more than 10 minutes. At today's prices on regular records they would cost more than \$3.50. You get them for only \$1. plus mailing charge. \$1.25 in all. Send today. Your satisfaction absolutely guaranteed.

**Tremendous Saving on the
Greatest COWBOY Songs of All Time**
**BRAND NEW — PURE VINYLITE
UNBREAKABLE RECORDS**

Each song is full length, fully orchestrated with top soloists—nothing has been cut.

**8 GREAT HITS \$1
for only**

FREE! A genuine turntable stroboscope. Enables you to check if your phonograph is turning at correct speed. Checks 78, 33 1/3 and 45 rpm. Sent to you absolutely free with every order.

MAIL COUPON NOW!

Empire Merchandising Co., Dept. R-10
2 Marble Ave., Pleasantville, New York
Please rush me 8 COWBOY HITS on vinylite unbreakable records along with the stroboscope. I enclose \$1.00 for the records and 25¢ to cover the cost of wrapping and shipping.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

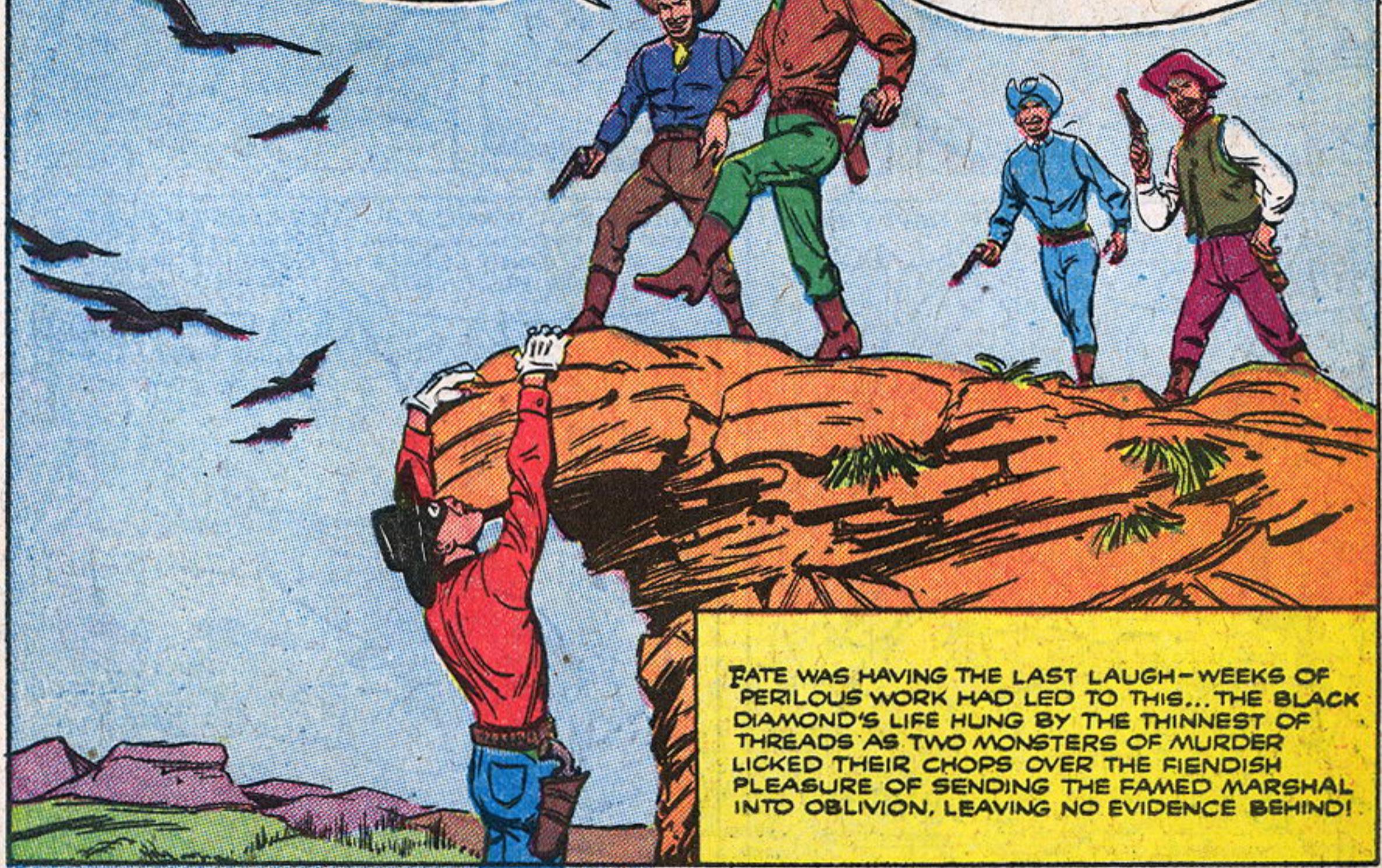
EMPIRE MDSG. CO., 2 MARBLE AVE., PLEASANTVILLE, N. Y.

BLACK DIAMOND

WHAT HAPPENED WHEN THE
BLACK DIAMOND
TRIED TO FATHOM THE SINISTER SECRET OF
THE SANCTUARY OF DEATH?

ISN'T THIS A PRETTY SIGHT, MANUEL? THE BLACK DIAMOND - HELPLESS UNDER OUR FEET!

EXACTLY WHY WE SHOULDN'T WASTE BULLETS, JUAN! YOU STEP ON ONE HAND - I WILL STEP ON THE OTHER! TOGETHER WE CAN KICK HIM INTO ETERNITY!

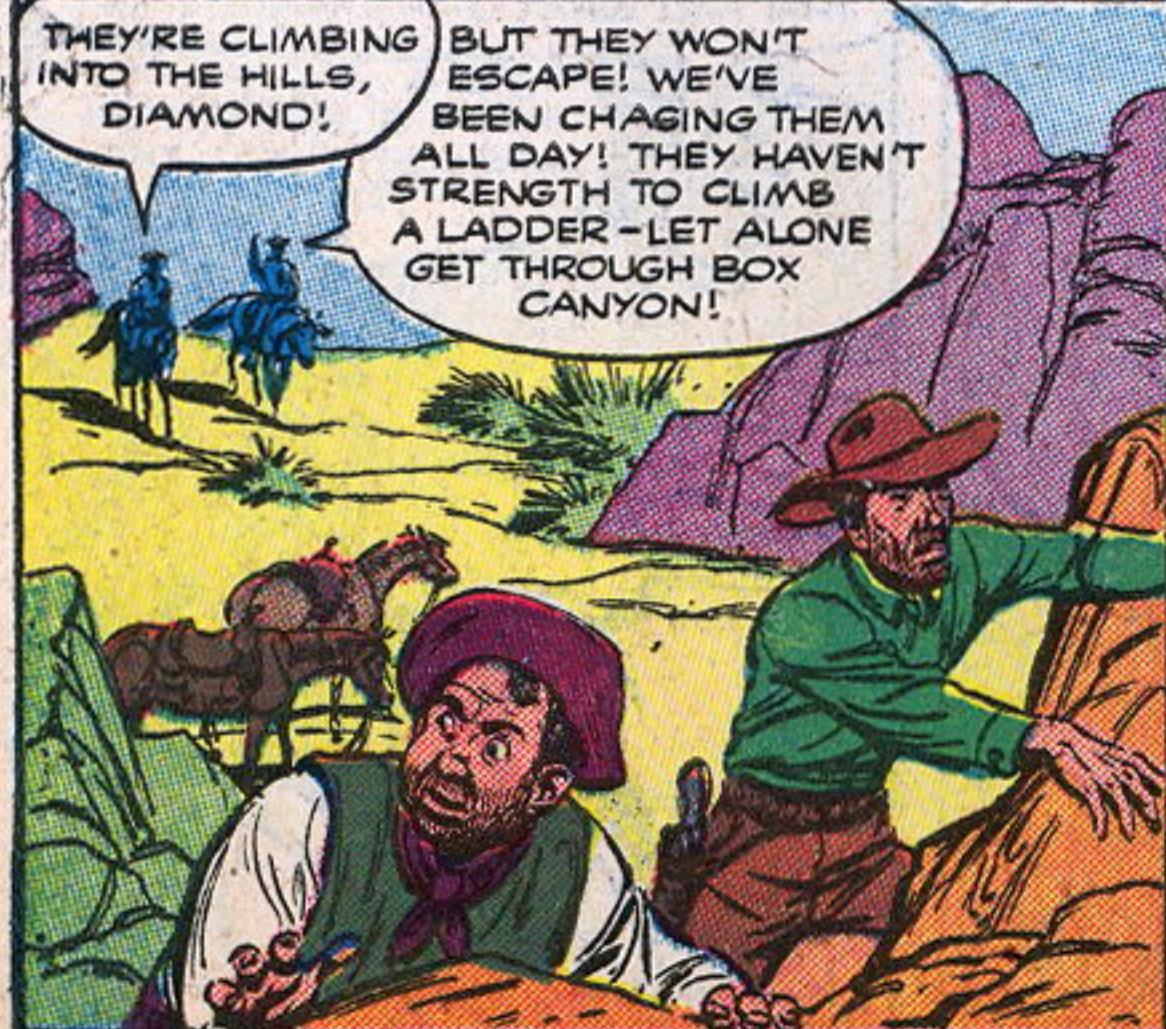


A BLAZING HOT AFTERNOON IN AUGUST - 1876 WAS DRAWING TO A CLOSE AND SO WAS THE BLACK DIAMOND'S PURSUIT OF A PAIR OF DESPERATE OUTLAWS...

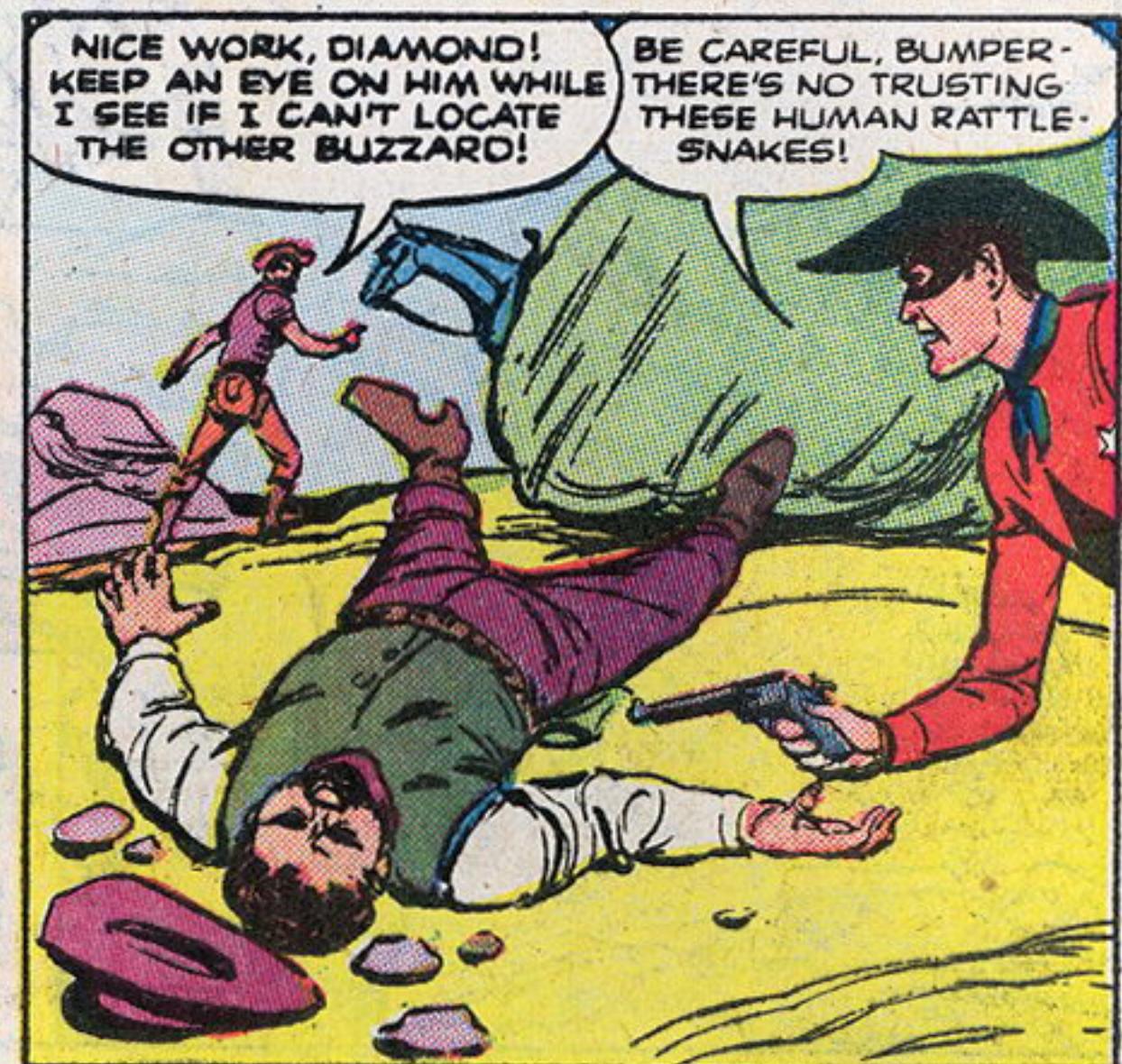
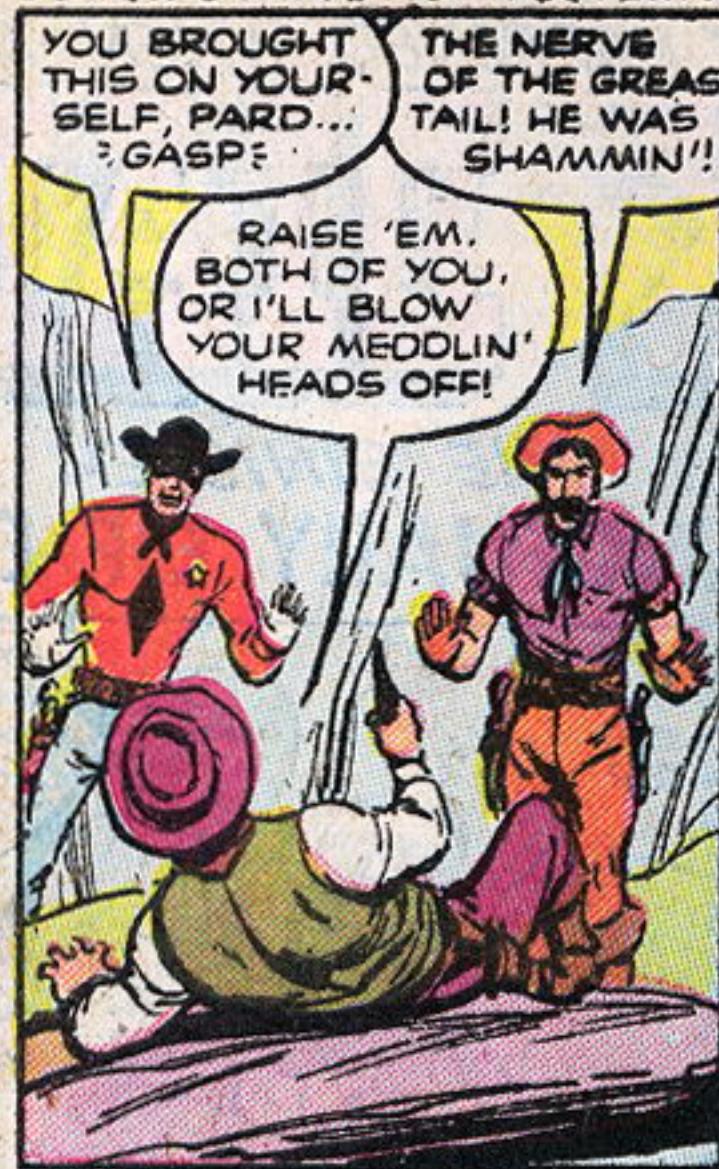
THEY'RE CLIMBING INTO THE HILLS, DIAMOND! BUT THEY WON'T ESCAPE! WE'VE BEEN CHASING THEM ALL DAY! THEY HAVEN'T STRENGTH TO CLIMB A LADDER - LET ALONE GET THROUGH BOX CANYON!

H... HELP! HELP!
I'M FALLIN'! GASP:
EEEAAAAA!

QUICK,
BUMPER!
LET'S GET
TO HIM! THE
OTHER ONE
CAN WAIT!



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

LUCKY! HUH! THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR SIX MONTHS! EVERY OUTLAW WE TRAIL JUST UPS AND DISAPPEARS! YOU KNOW THE ANSWER! TALK!

I...I DON'T KNOW ANYTHIN'! I DIDN'T GET AWAY, DID I?

NO YOU DIDN'T, AND NEITHER WILL YOUR PAL! WE'LL BE BACK FOR HIM TONIGHT!

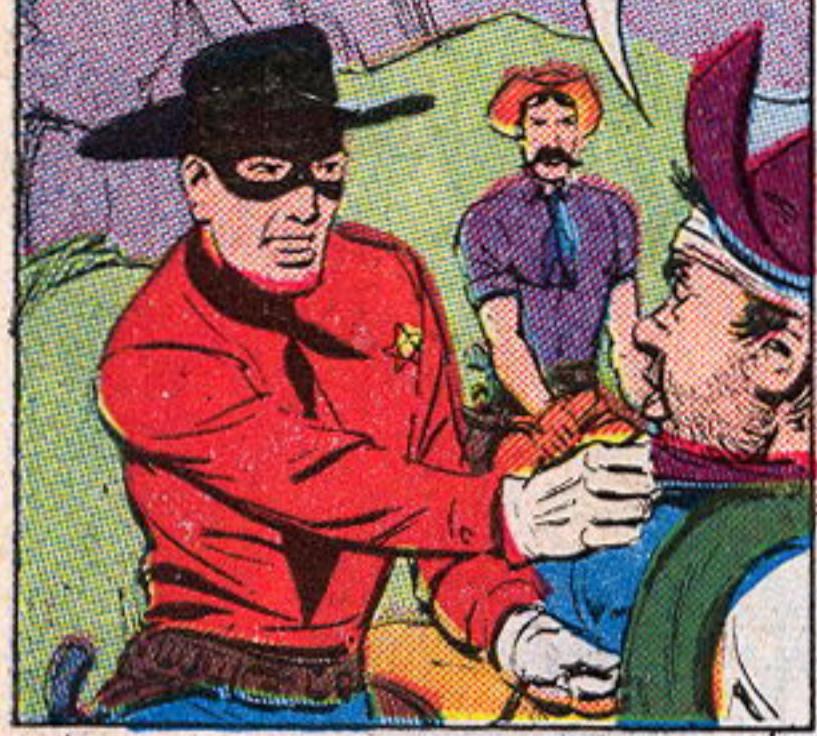
YOU'LL NEVER GET HIM! NOT EVERY GALOOT IS AS UNLUCKY AS JOE ADCOCK!

SO THAT'S YOUR NAME!

LATER THAT NIGHT AT THE JAILHOUSE...

MR. ADCOCK SEEMS TO GET QUITE A KICK OUT OF THOSE LANTERNS YOU'RE FIXIN' UP, BUMPER!

LET HIM LAUGH! HE DOESN'T KNOW YET - BUT THE LAW LAUGHS LAST!

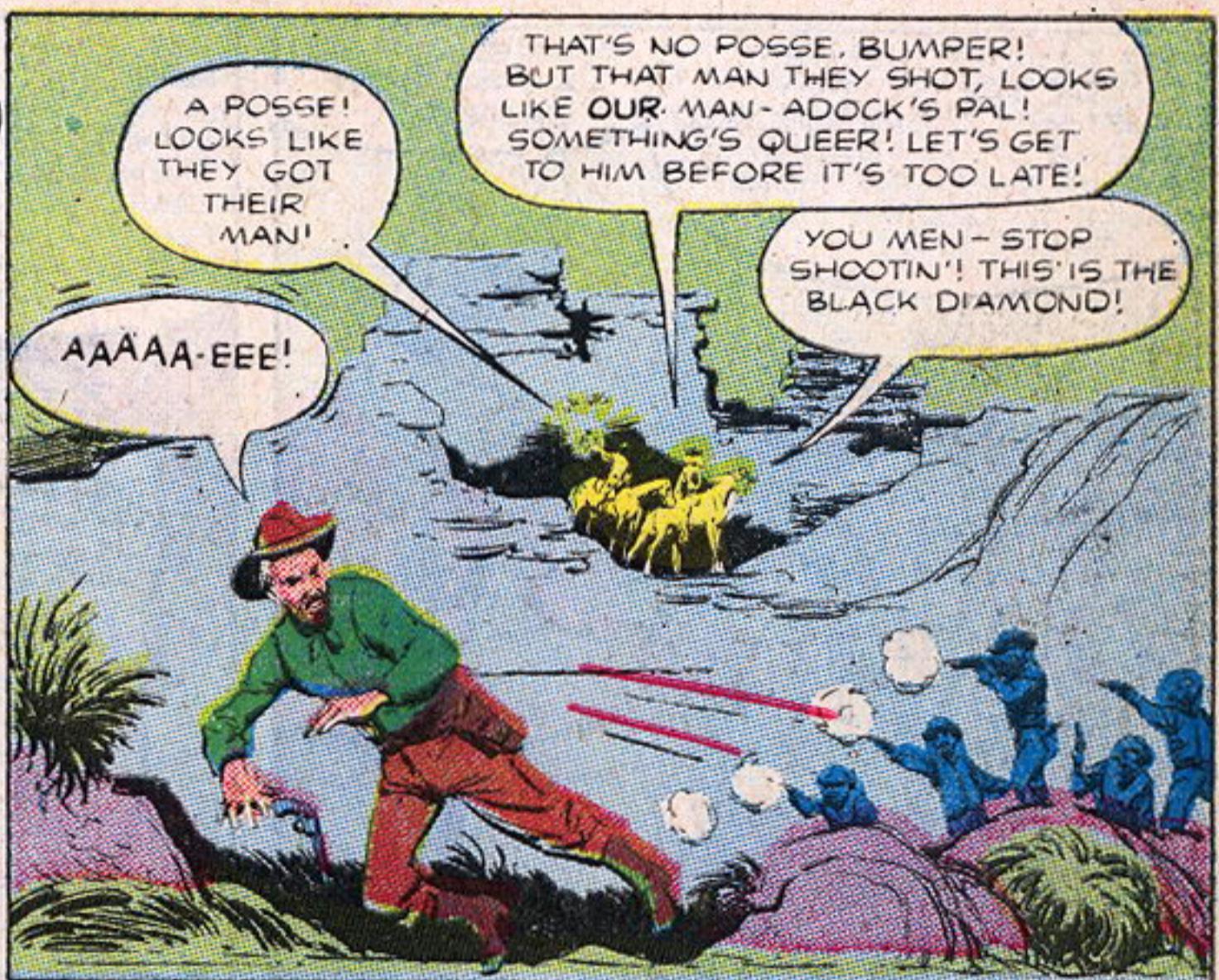


HOURS LATER... IN BOX CANYON.

THERE'S NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT, BLACK DIAMOND! THE VARMINT WAITED TILL WE WERE OUT OF SIGHT, THEN DOUBLED BACK ON HIS TRAIL!

LISTEN, BUMPER! SHOTS! COME ON!

BANG! BANG!



THERE'S YOUR ANSWER! THEY SURE AREN'T LAWMEN!

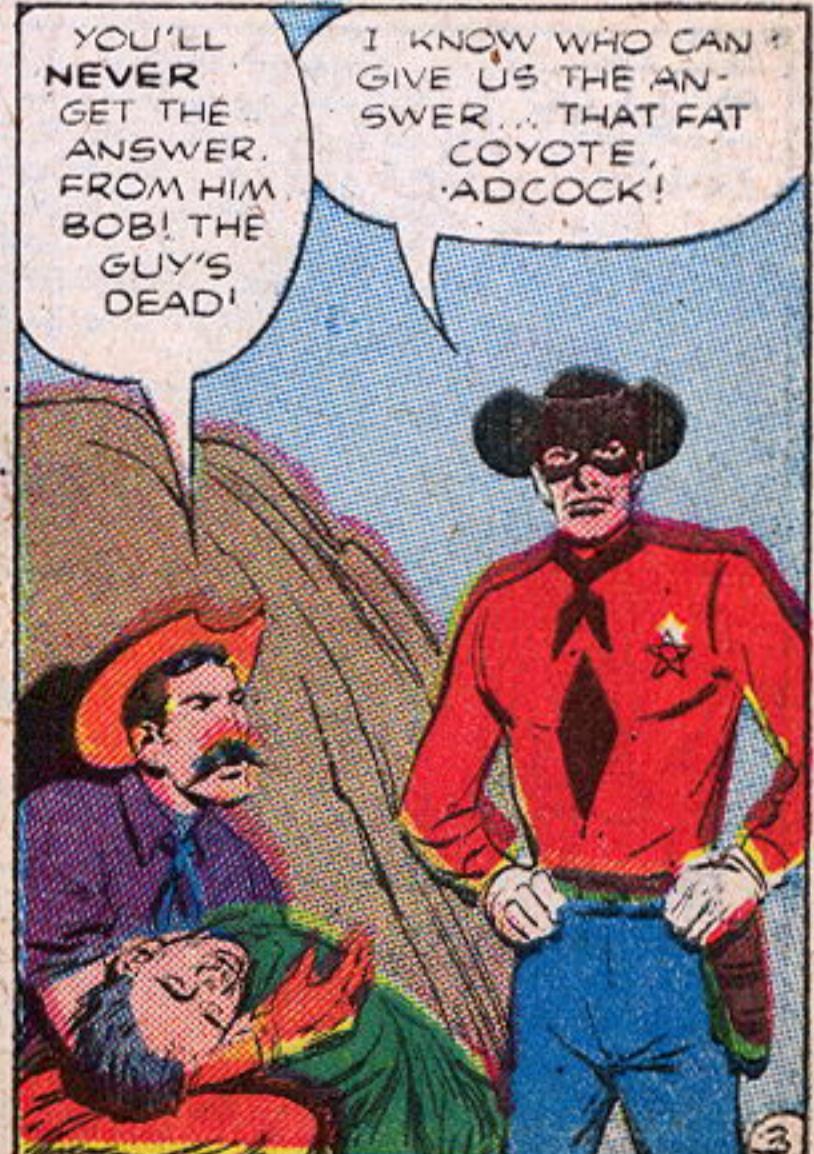
WE CAN'T BOTHER WITH THEM NOW! ADCOCK'S PAL IS STILL ALIVE! HE CAN TELL US SOMETHING, IF WE GET TO HIM IN TIME!

TH... THE DOUBLE-CROSSERS! LYIN' DOUBLE-CROSSERS! THEY TOOK MY \$2,000! THEN THEY TRIED TO KILL ME - I

WHO DID! WHO? SPEAK MAN!

YOU'LL NEVER GET THE ANSWER. FROM HIM BOB! THE GUY'S DEAD!

I KNOW WHO CAN GIVE US THE ANSWER... THAT FAT COYOTE, ADCOCK!



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

HOURS LATER...IN THE BLACK DIAMOND'S OFFICE...

WE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO SEE YOUR SADDLE PARD AGAIN. ADCOCK! FIRST, THEY TOOK HIS MONEY THEN THEY KILLED HIM!

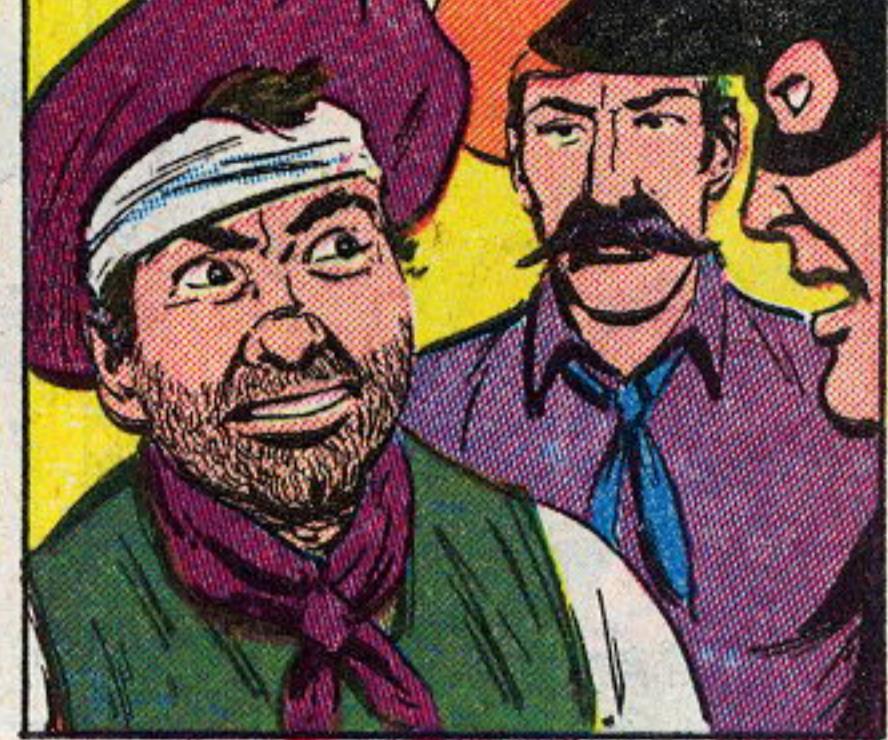
THE LOUSY DOUBLE-CROSSERS! I HAD A REASON FOR NOT TALKIN' BEFORE, BUT WHEN I SEE WHAT THEM BACK-BITING RATTLERS WOULD HAVE DONE TO ME...

REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT OUTLAWS DISAPPEARIN' INTO THIN AIR RECENTLY? OKAY—BILL AND ME WAS HEADED FOR THE PERFECT HIDEOUT!

THERE'S NO PERFECT HIDEOUT! SOONER OR LATER, WE'D TRACK YOU DOWN!

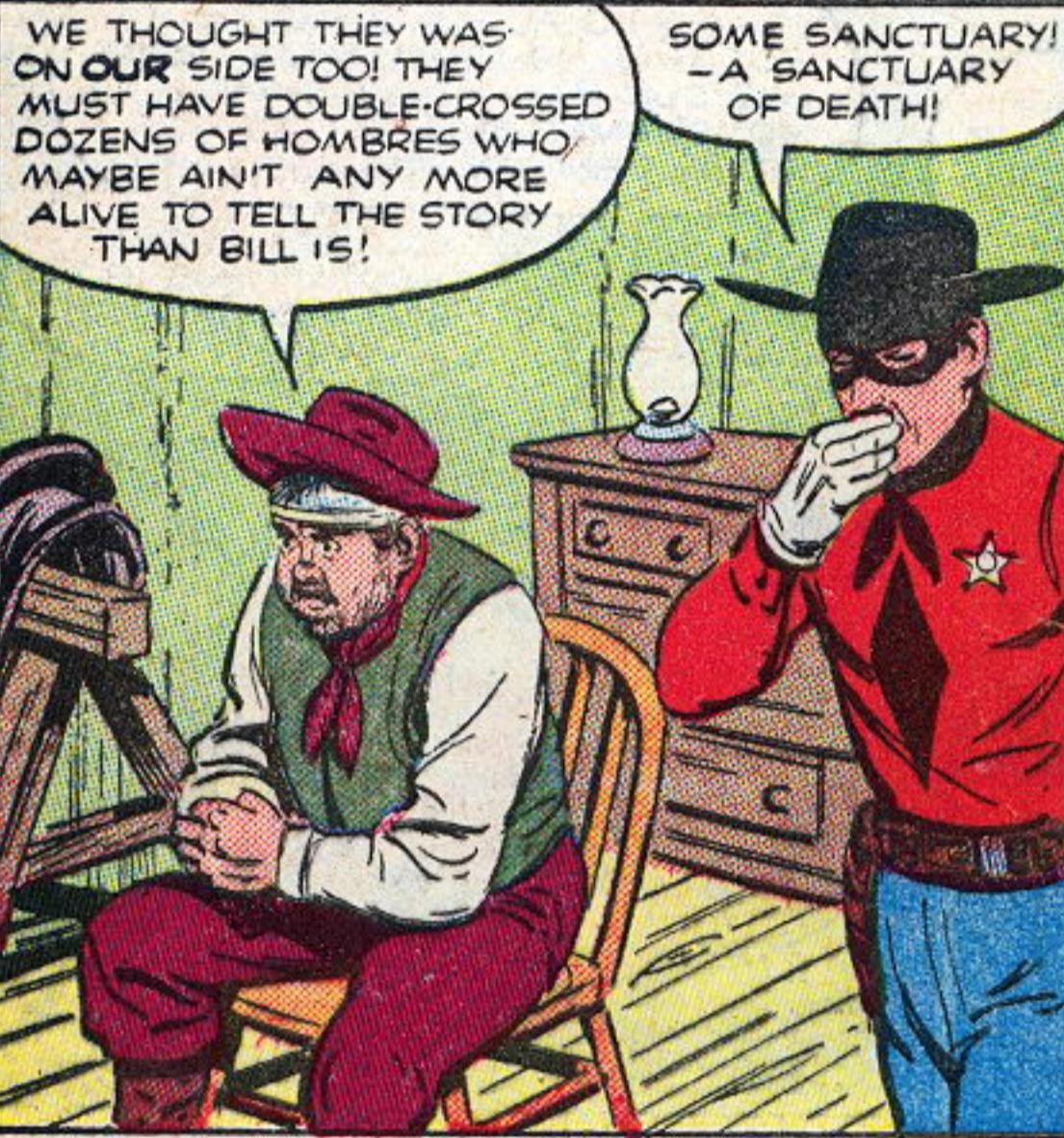
MAYBE SO—MAYBE NOT! ANYWAY, WORD GOT AROUND THAT RICARDO'S RANCH WAS THE PERFECT HIDEOUT FOR OUTLAWS!

THE RICARDO RANCH? I THOUGHT MANUEL AND JUAN RICARDO WERE RESPECTABLE CATTLE RAISERS!



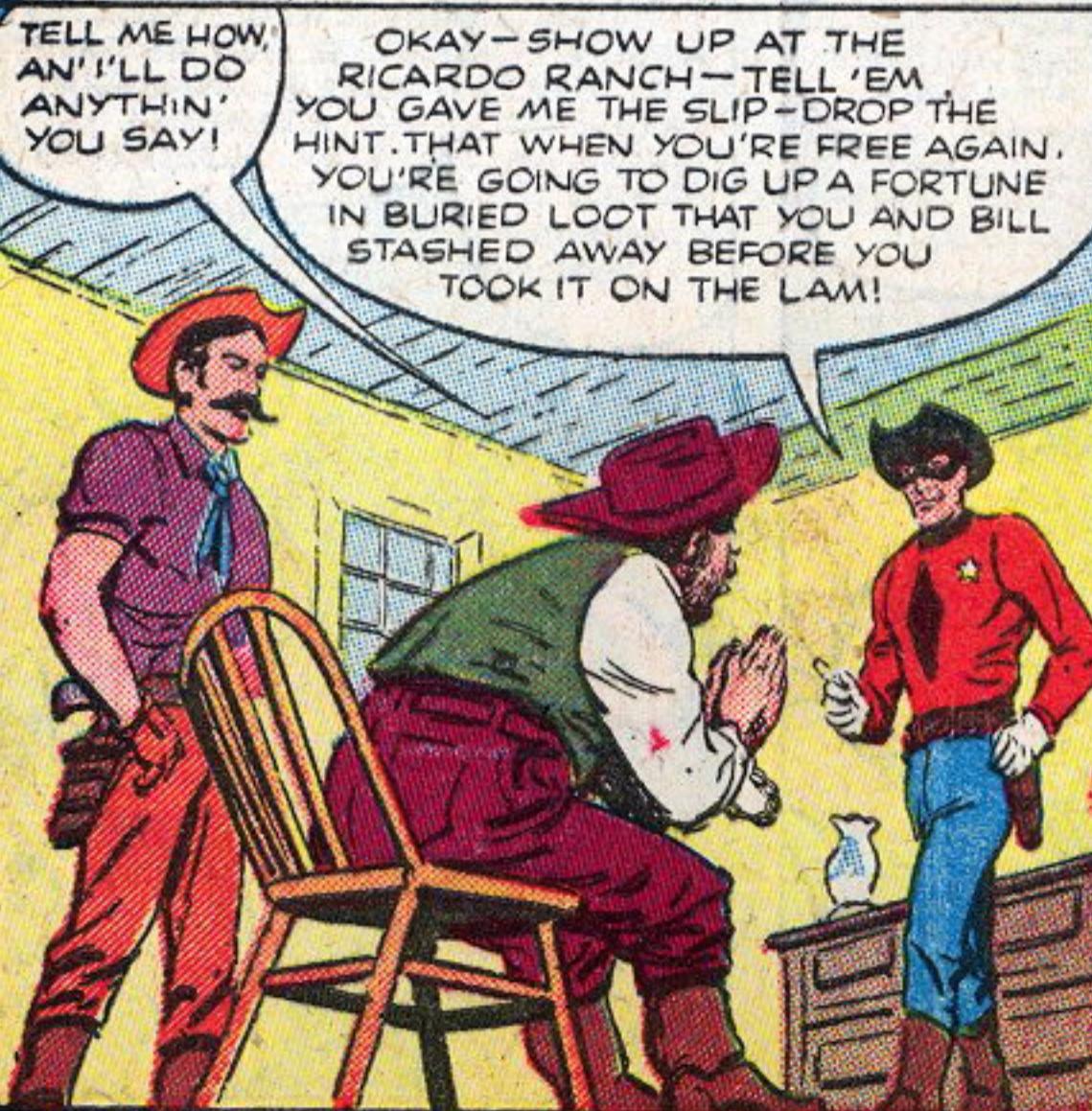
WE THOUGHT THEY WAS ON OUR SIDE TOO! THEY MUST HAVE DOUBLE-CROSSED DOZENS OF HOMBRES WHO MAYBE AIN'T ANY MORE ALIVE TO TELL THE STORY THAN BILL IS!

SOME SANCTUARY! —A SANCTUARY OF DEATH!



TELL ME HOW, AN' I'LL DO ANYTHIN' YOU SAY!

OKAY—SHOW UP AT THE RICARDO RANCH—TELL 'EM YOU GAVE ME THE SLIP—DROP THE HINT. THAT WHEN YOU'RE FREE AGAIN, YOU'RE GOING TO DIG UP A FORTUNE IN BURIED LOOT THAT YOU AND BILL STASHED AWAY BEFORE YOU TOOK IT ON THE LAM!



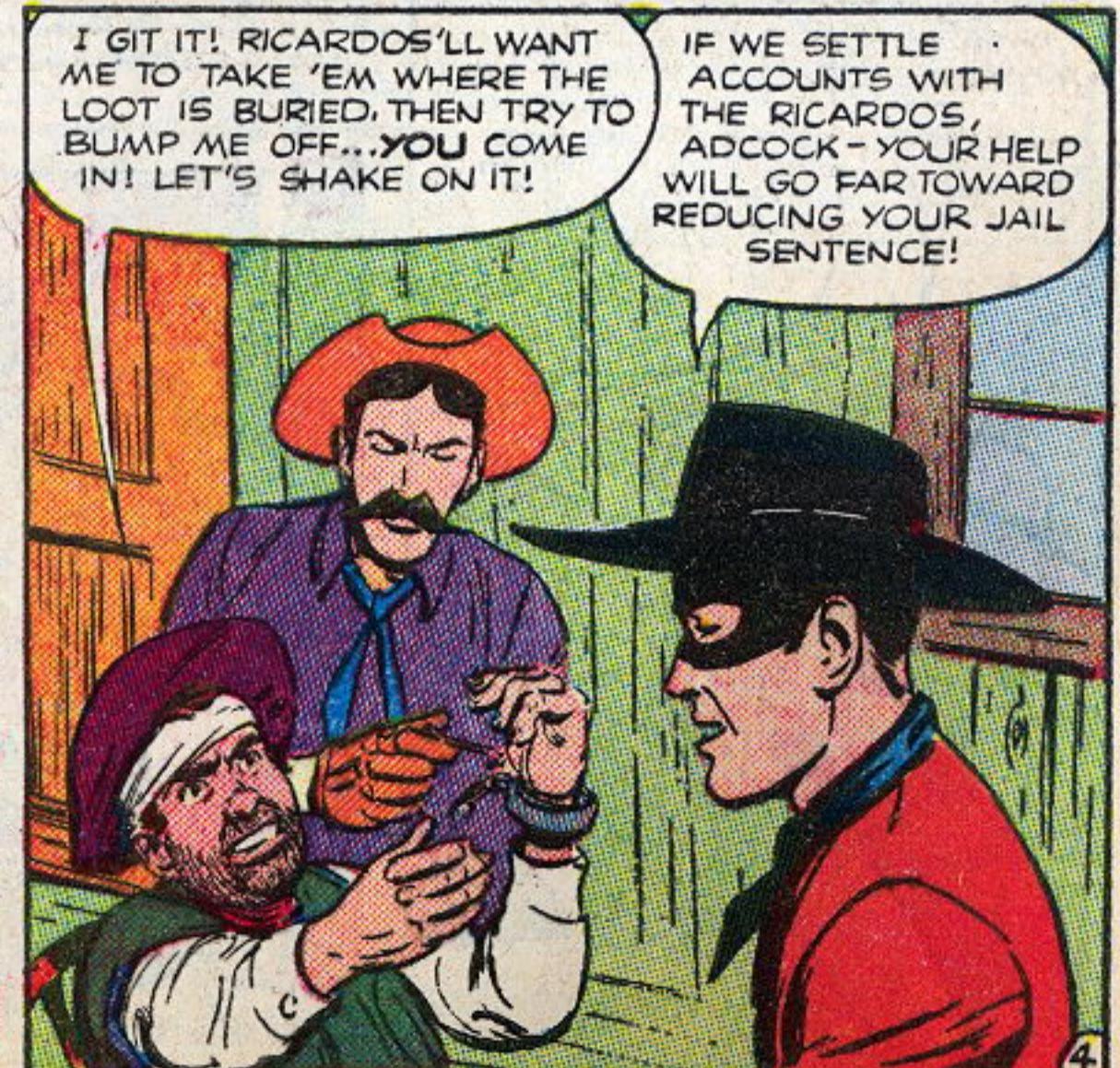
IT'S A RACKET THEY'RE RUNNIN'! THE SUCKER SHOWS UP AT THE RICARDOS LOADED WITH DOUGH TO PAY FOR "HIDING OUT", BUT THEY ONLY STAY LONG ENOUGH TO GET SLUGS PUMPED INTO 'EM! AND THEIR MONEY STOLEN! IF I COULD GET THOSE DOGS...

MAYBE YOU CAN, ADCOCK!



I GIT IT! RICARDOS'LL WANT ME TO TAKE 'EM WHERE THE LOOT IS BURIED, THEN TRY TO BUMP ME OFF...YOU COME IN! LET'S SHAKE ON IT!

IF WE SETTLE ACCOUNTS WITH THE RICARDOS, ADCOCK—YOUR HELP WILL GO FAR TOWARD REDUCING YOUR JAIL SENTENCE!

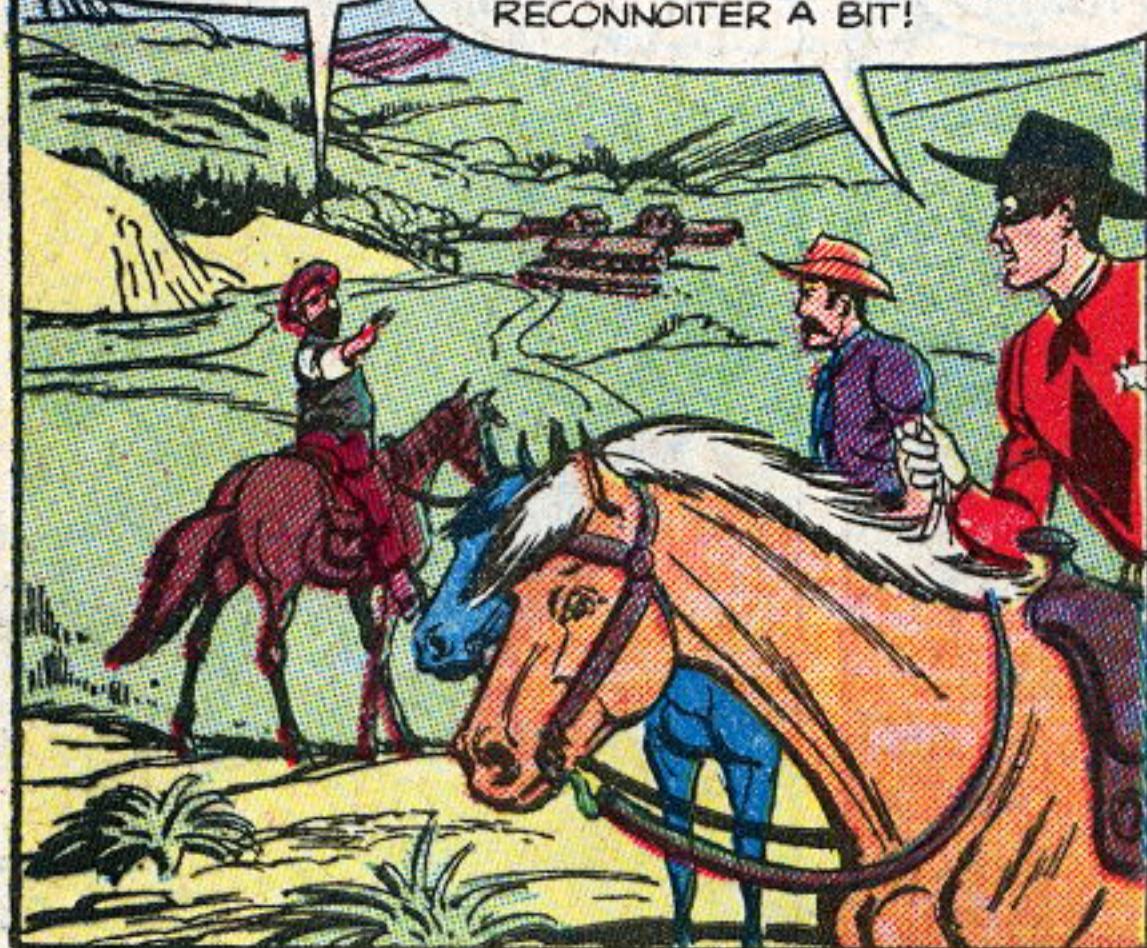


BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

LATER, THAT MORNING, NEAR THE RICARDO RANCH...

WISH ME LUCK,
BLACK DIAMOND!

ACT SMART AND YOU'LL MAKE
YOUR OWN LUCK, ADCOCK! WE'LL
BE DROPPING BY THE RANCH TO
RECONNOITER A BIT!

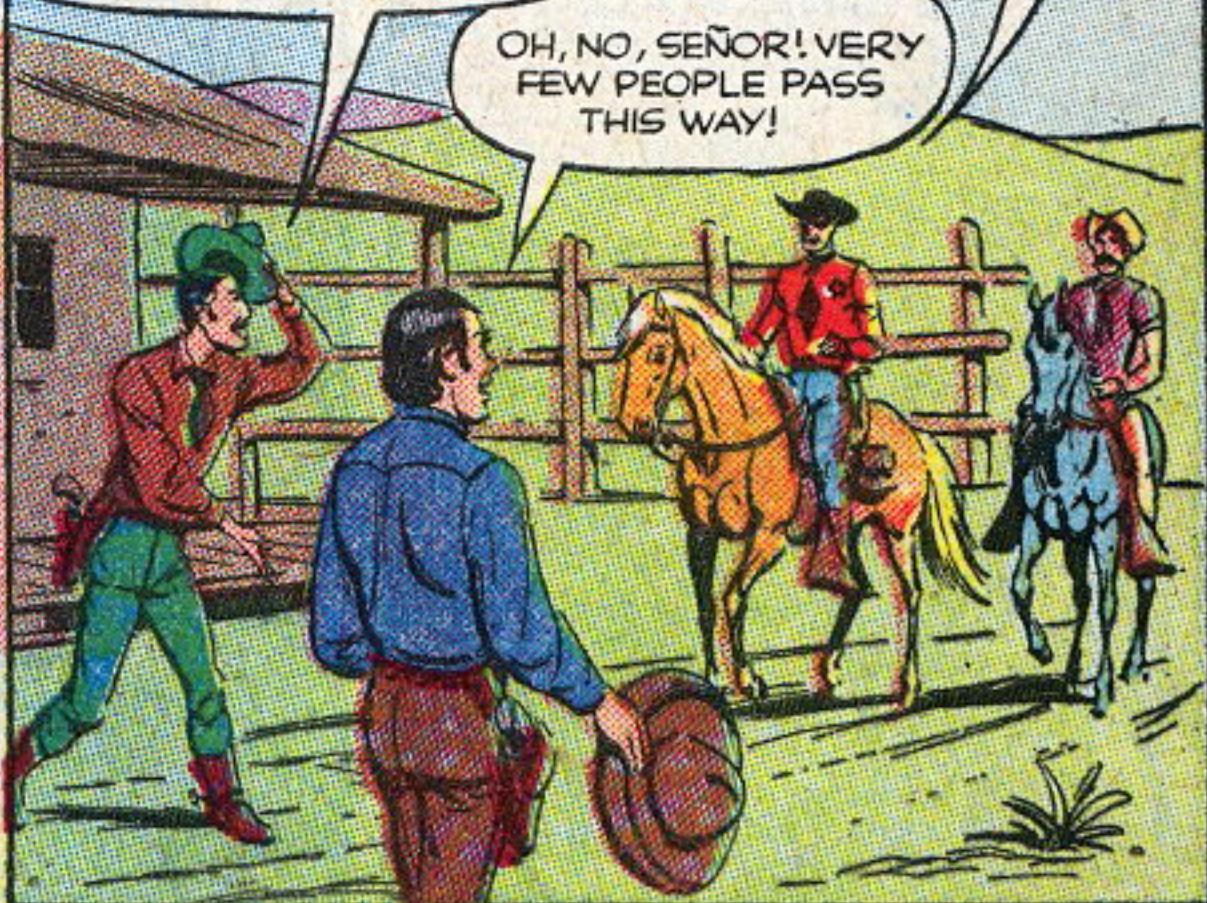


AN HOUR LATER...

WELCOME, BLACK DIAMOND!
MY POOR RANCH IS HONORED
BY YOUR PRESENCE! WHAT
CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

WE'RE LOOKING FOR AN
OUTLAW NAMED ADCOCK—
GAVE US THE SLIP THIS
MORNING—SEEN ANY
STRANGERS HEREABOUTS?

OH, NO, SEÑOR! VERY
FEW PEOPLE PASS
THIS WAY!



THEN YOU WON'T MIND
IF WE HAVE A LOOK
AROUND JUST TO
MAKE SURE?

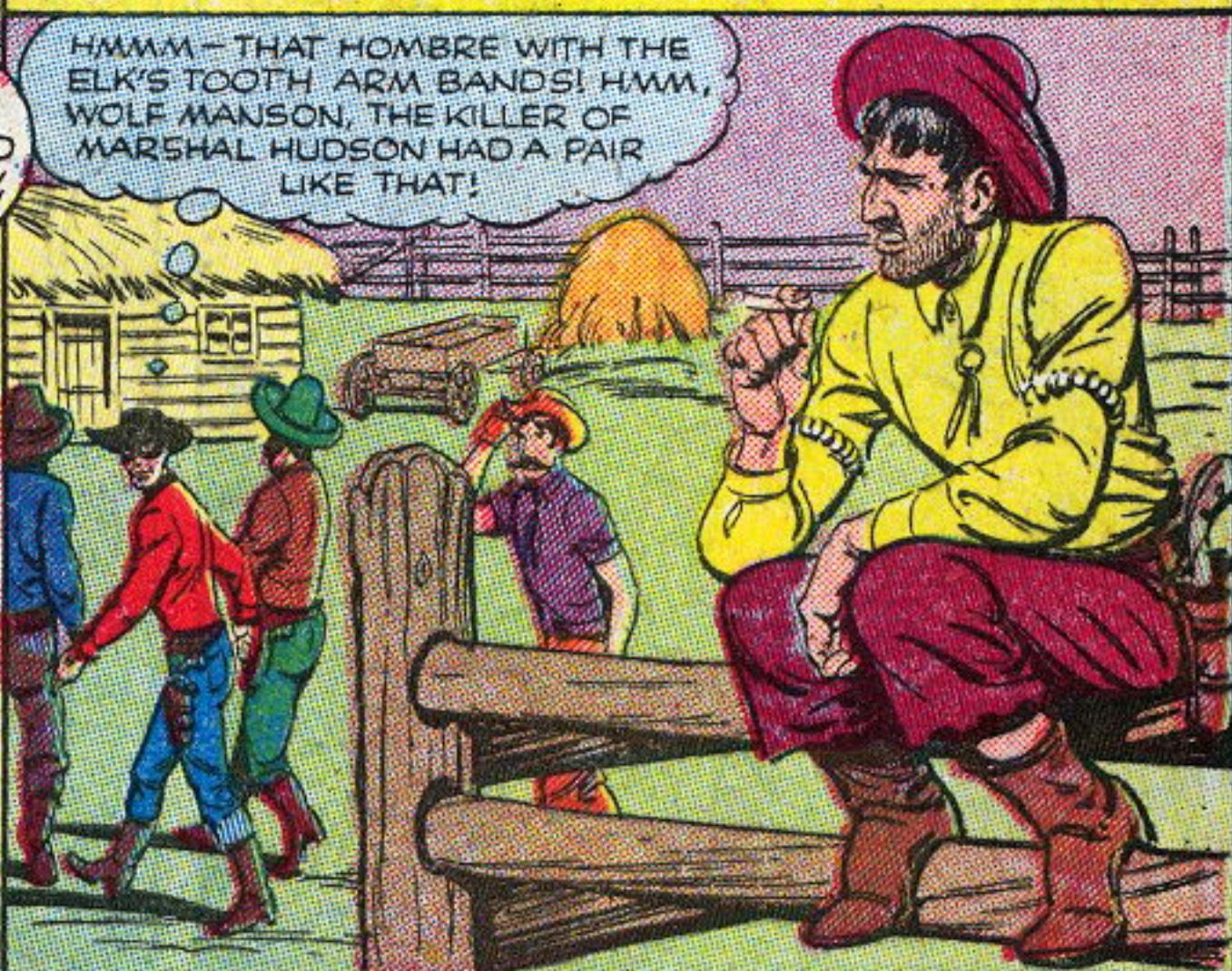
OH, NO, SEÑOR! IT
IS OUR PLEASURE!
WE WILL ESCORT YOU
OURSELVES!

IT IS NOT
OFTEN WE HAVE
SUCH DISTINGUISHED
VISITORS! THIS WAY,
PLEASE!



BUT WHILE THE RICARDOS WERE POINTING OUT THE SIGHTS ON
THE RANCH, THE BLACK DIAMOND'S KEEN EYES SAW OTHER THINGS.

HMM—THAT HOMBRE WITH THE
ELK'S TOOTH ARM BANDS! HMM,
WOLF MANSION, THE KILLER OF
MARSHAL HUDSON HAD A PAIR
LIKE THAT!



THERE WE'RE OTHER MOMENTOS AND SOUVENIRS BLACK DIAMOND ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS DESPERADOES WHO HAD DISAPPEARED...

HICK GRANNERY'S
WHITE
MEERSCHAUM
PIPE!

STRANGLER
BEECH'S VELVET
GLOVES!

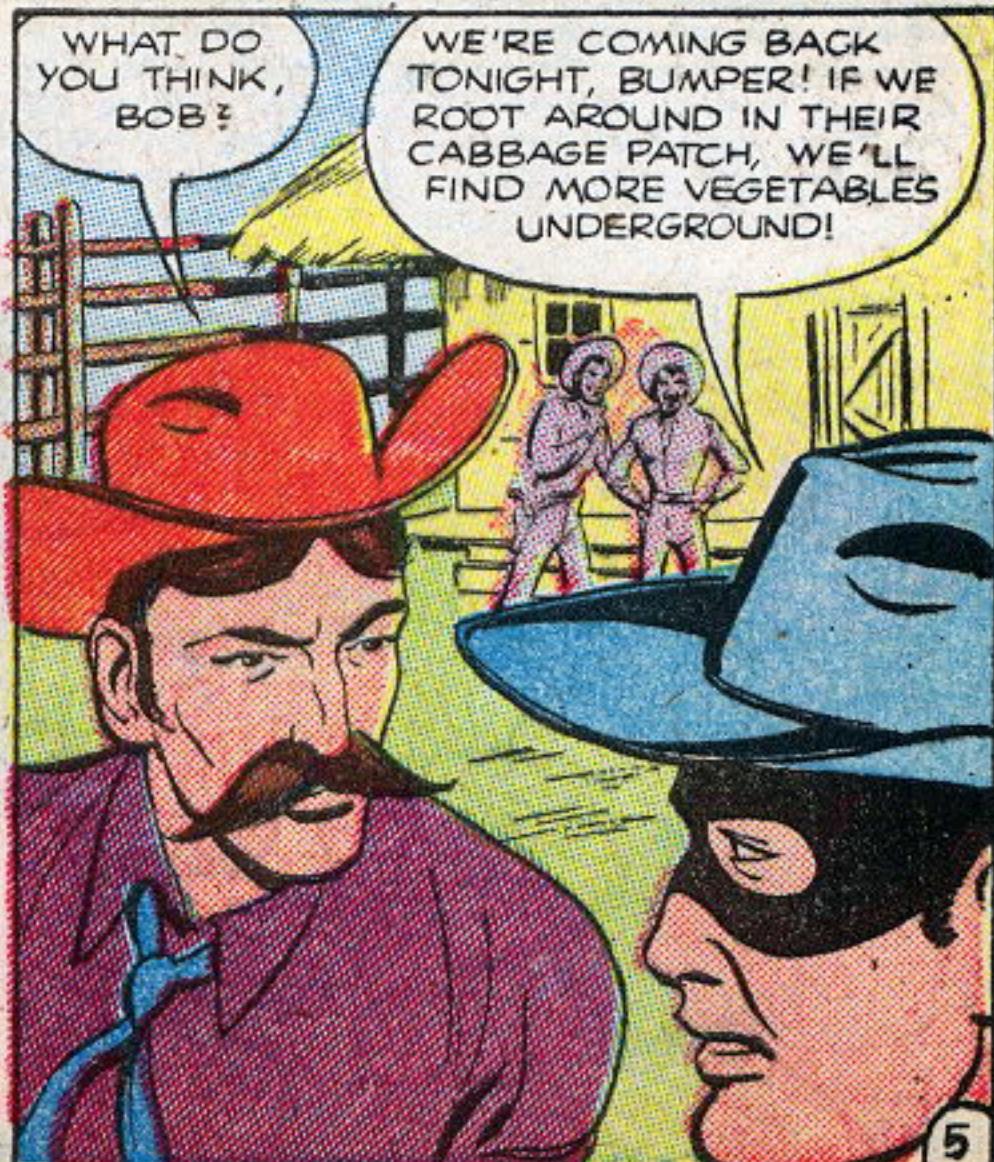
THERE'S
ONLY ONE
DAGGER LIKE
THAT IN THE
WEST! IT BE-
LONGED TO
WACO
HYLER!

JIM, THE
SLAVE'S LUCKY
COIN!



WHAT DO
YOU THINK,
BOB?

WE'RE COMING BACK
TONIGHT, BUMPER! IF WE
ROOT AROUND IN THEIR
CABBAGE PATCH, WE'LL
FIND MORE VEGETABLES
UNDERGROUND!



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

THAT EVENING—ON A SLOPE OVERLOOKING THE RICARDO RANCH...

THE RICARDO'S FELL FOR THE GAG! THEY'RE GOIN' OUT WITH ME TOMORROW TO DIG UP THE TREASURE! THEY'LL BE DRIVIN' SOME CATTLE AS A COVER UP!

NICE GOING, ADCOCK—WE'LL BE BEHIND YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!



THE BLACK DIAMOND! GASP: WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT? WHY HAVE YOU ATTACKED MY MEN?

JUST A LITTLE MISUNDERSTANDING, RICARDO—WE WERE HEADED HOME AND STUMBLED ACROSS YOUR PROPERTY BY MISTAKE—YOUR MEN JUMPED US AND WE DEFENDED OURSELVES!

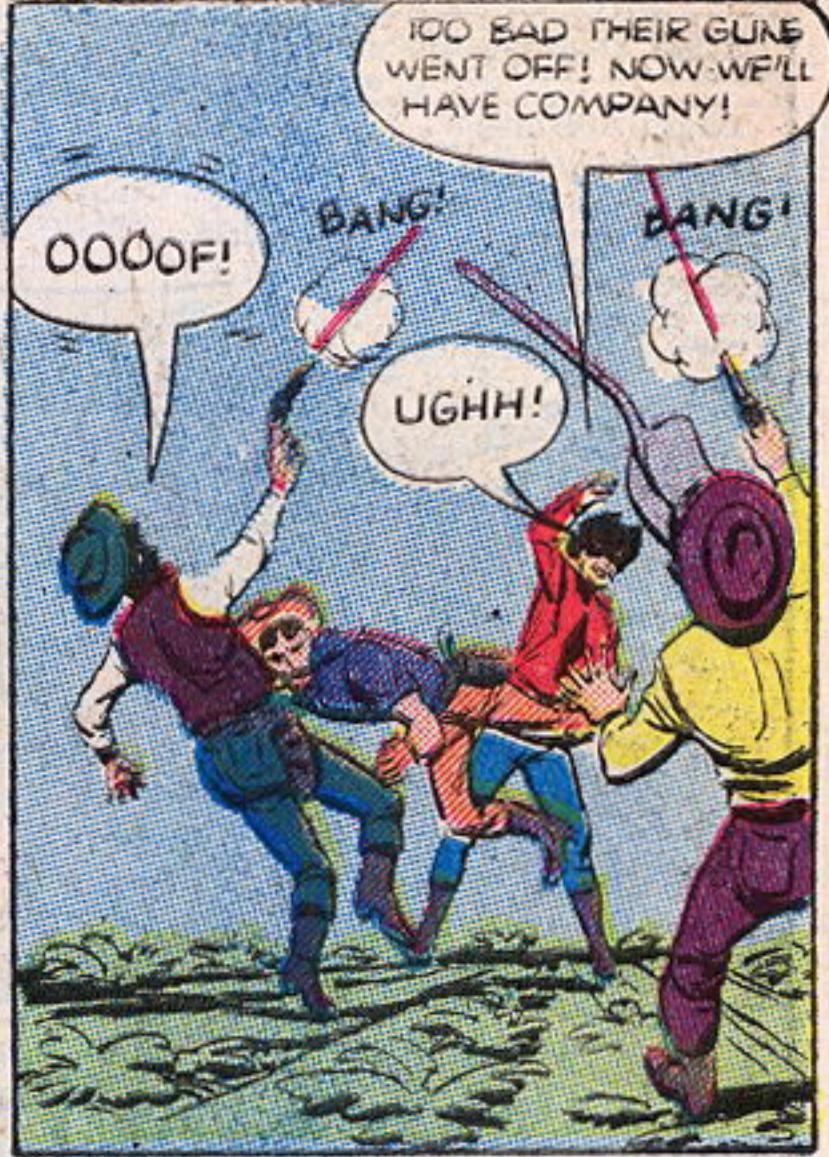
SO WE SEE! THE ROAD BACK TO TOWN LIES THAT WAY! YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE IT, AND LEAVE US, IN PEACE!

LATE THAT NIGHT IN A VEGETABLE PATCH BEYOND THE CORRAL...

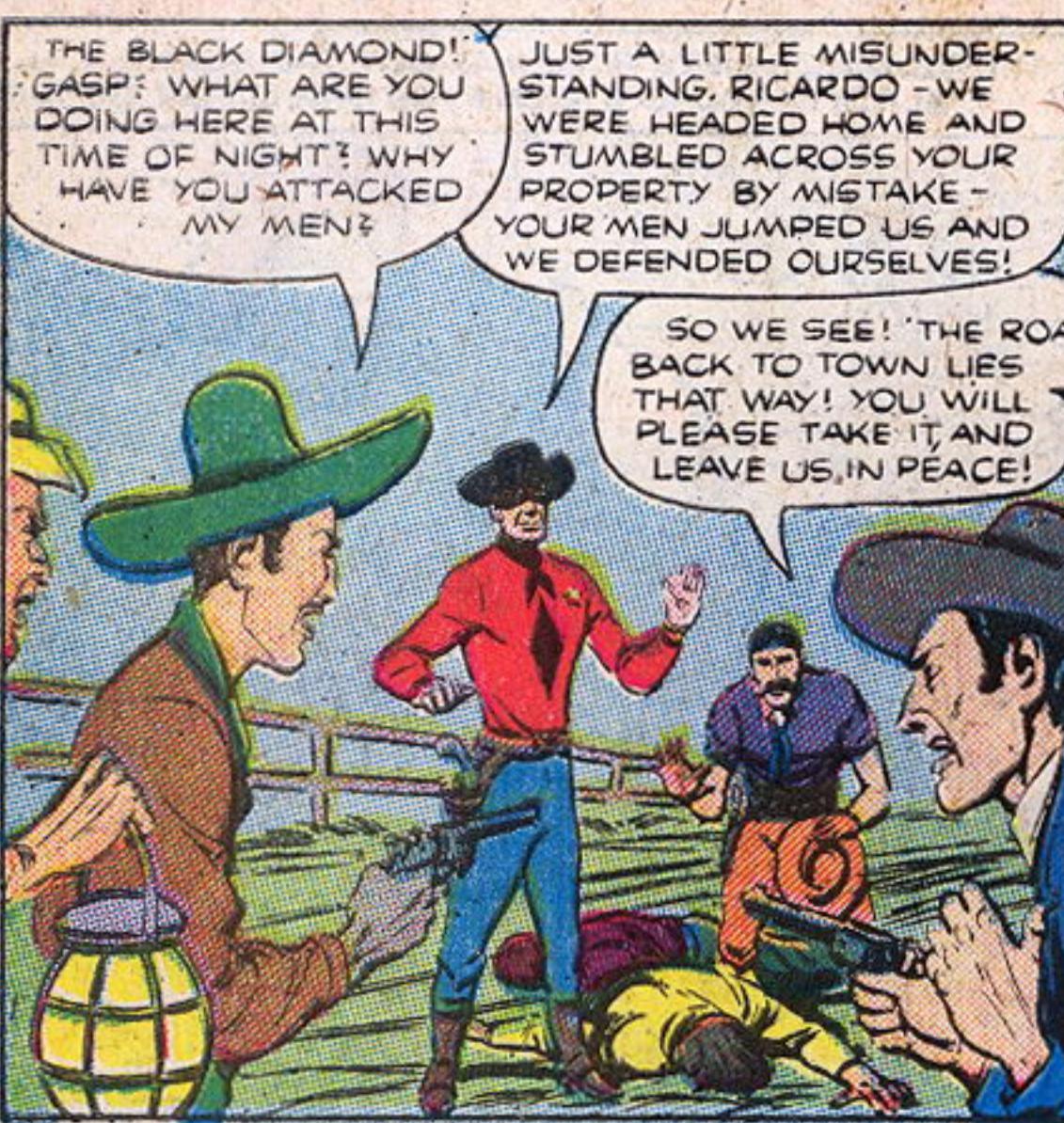
IF THERE ARE ANY BODIES HERE—THEY'D BE WHERE THE EARTH IS FRESHLY TURNED!

WHO'S OUT THERE? STOP, OR WE'LL SHOOT!

BOB! A COUPLE OF WATCH DOGS!



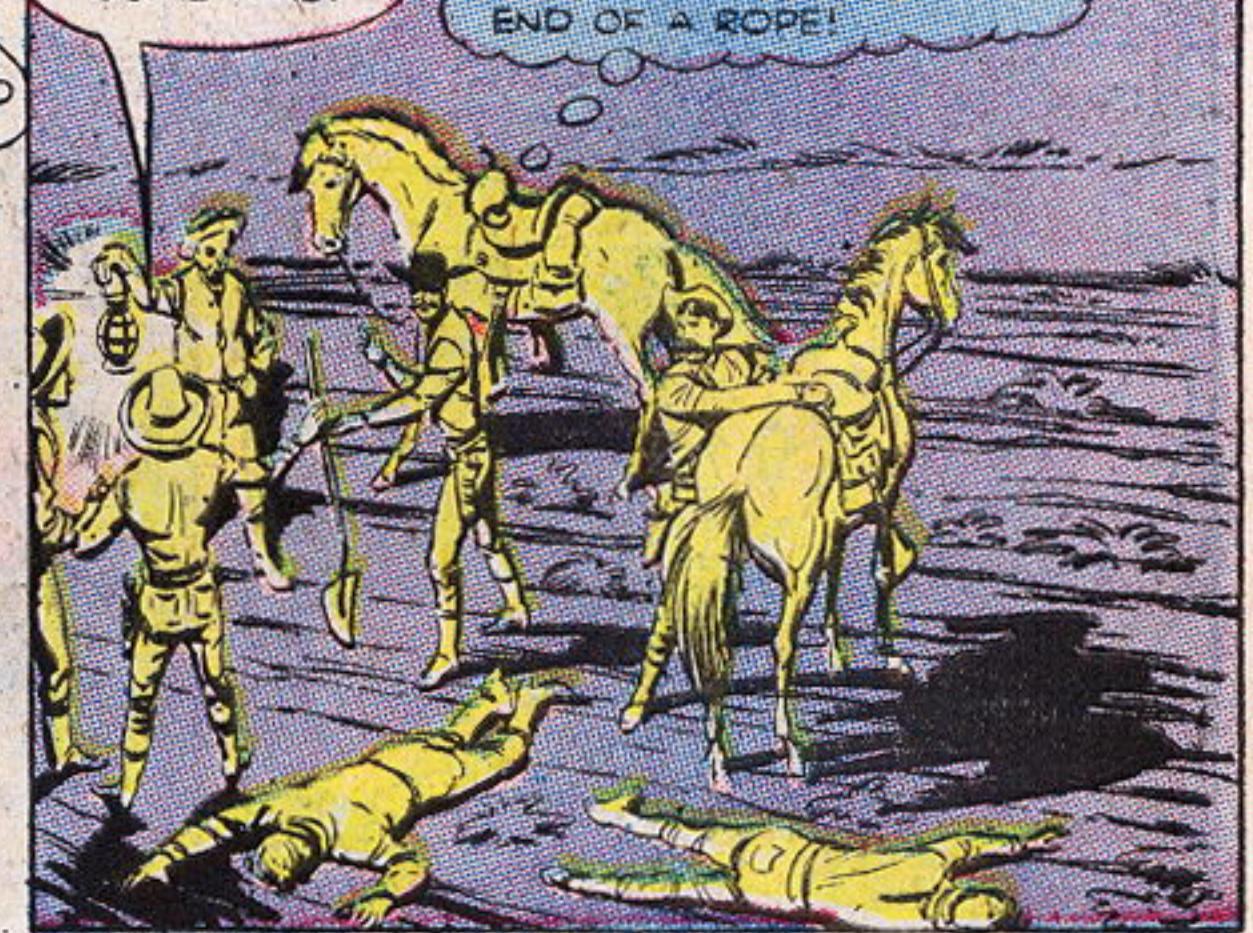
!OO BAD! THEIR GUNS WENT OFF! NOW WE'LL HAVE COMPANY!



BY THE WAY, DO NOT FORGET YOUR SHOVEL! A SHOVEL MAY COME IN HANDY SOME TIME!

IT SURE DOES! A MARSHAL NEVER KNOWS WHAT HE'S LIABLE TO DIG UP! HASTA LA VISTA, AMIGO!

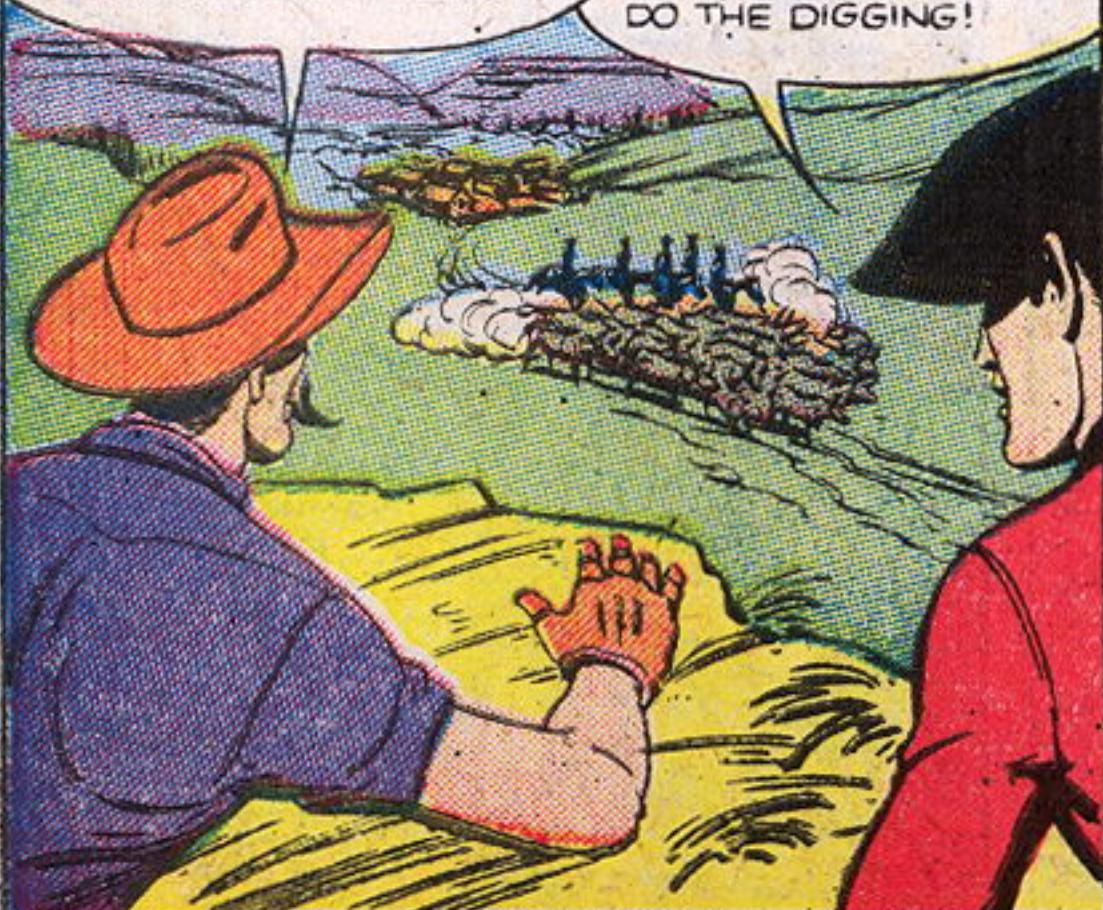
THE NEXT TIME WE MEET PAL, YOU'LL BE DANGLING AT THE END OF A ROPE!



THE FOLLOWING MORNING...

ADCOCK GAVE US THE STRAIGHT 'GOODS! THEY'RE GOING OUT LOOKING FOR ADCOCK'S BURIED LOOT!

WE CAN PICK UP THEIR TRAIL EASILY! FIRST, WE'LL LOOK IN THE RICARDO PLANTATION—AND THIS TIME WE WON'T DO THE DIGGING!

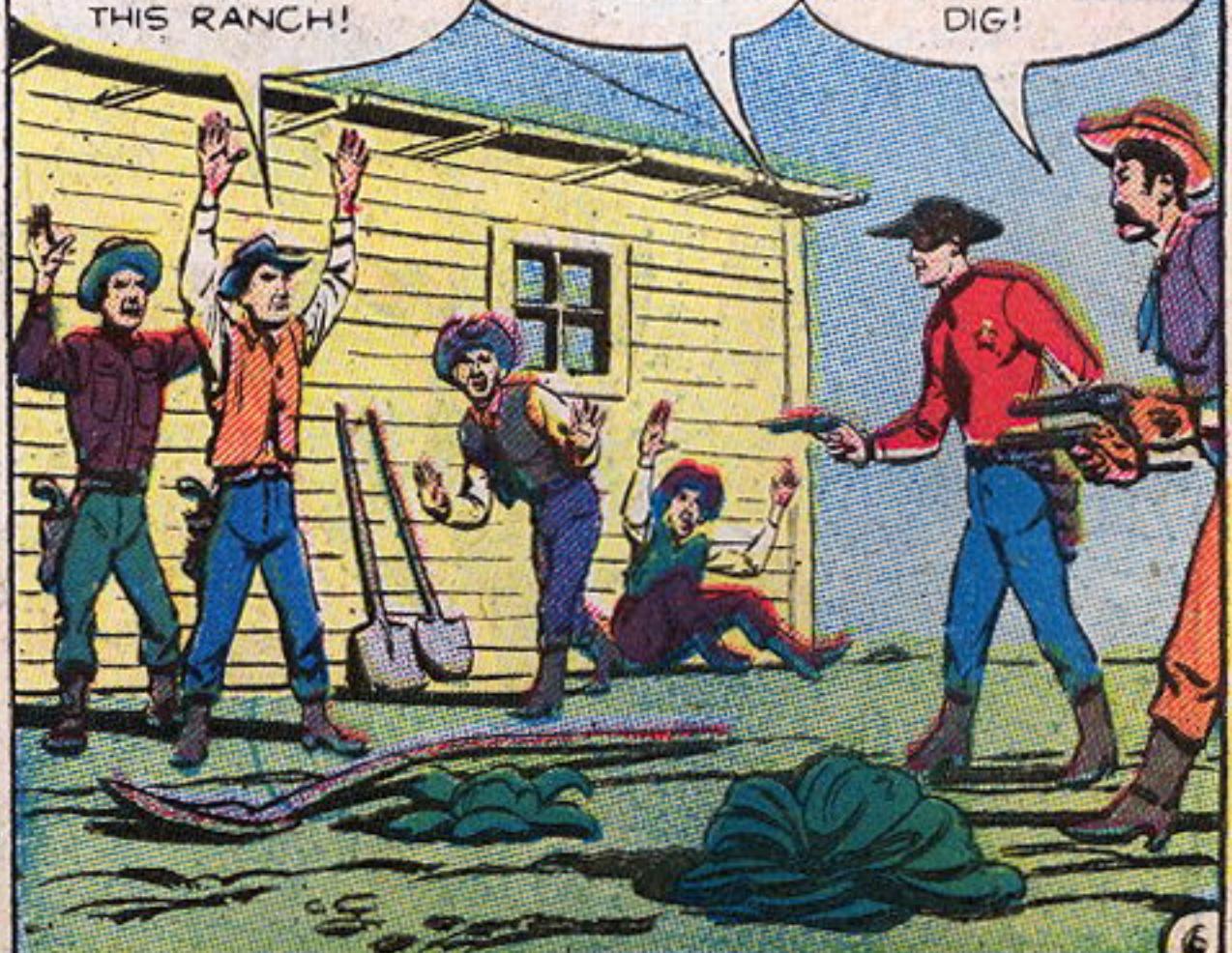


A HALF-HOUR LATER...

YOU GOT NO BUSINESS HANGIN' ROUND THIS RANCH!

QUIET! JUST PICK UP THE SHOVELS AND GET TO WORK!

AND NO FUNNY STUFF, OR WE'LL PLANT YOU IN THE HOLES YOU DIG!



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

SHORTLY AFTER...

HMM - THE RICARDO BROTHERS SURE KNOW HOW TO HIDE OUT A GUY! WHO'D EVER THINK OF LOOKING HERE FOR A SLAUGHTER HOUSE?

IT'S THE WORK OF MONSTERS, DIAMOND! I FOUND EIGHTEEN CORPSES!



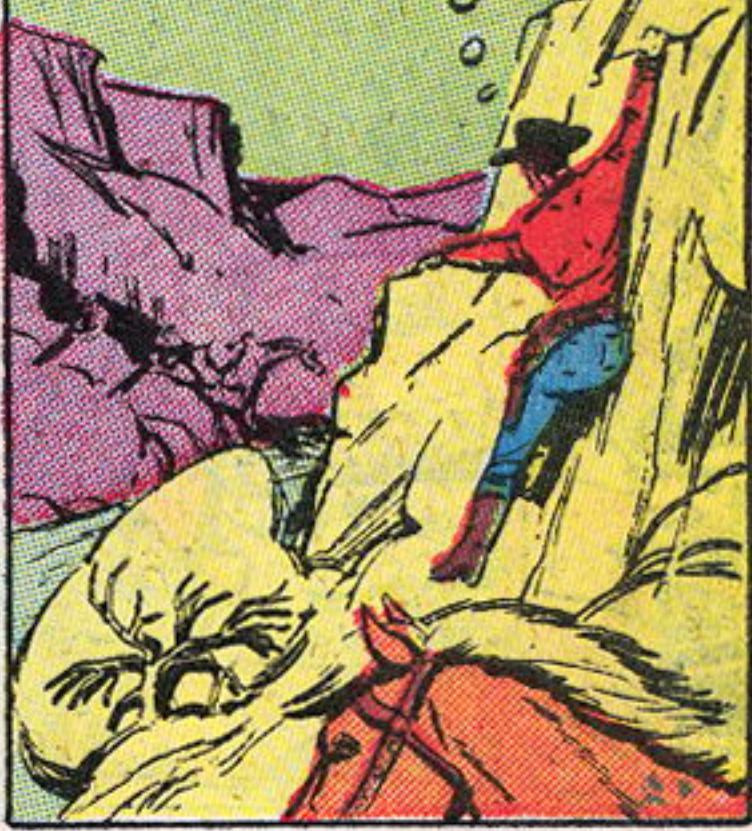
WE'VE SEEN ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO HANG THE RICARDO'S HIGHER THAN PIKE'S PEAK! TAKE THESE COYOTES INTO TOWN - THEN TAKE THE SHORT CUT AND JOIN ME AT BOX CANYON! THAT'S WHERE I ARRANGED WITH ADCOCK TO FIND HIS BURIED LOOT!

RIGHT, BOB! BUT WATCH YOUR STEP! THERE'S NOTHING STUPID ABOUT THE RICARDO'S!



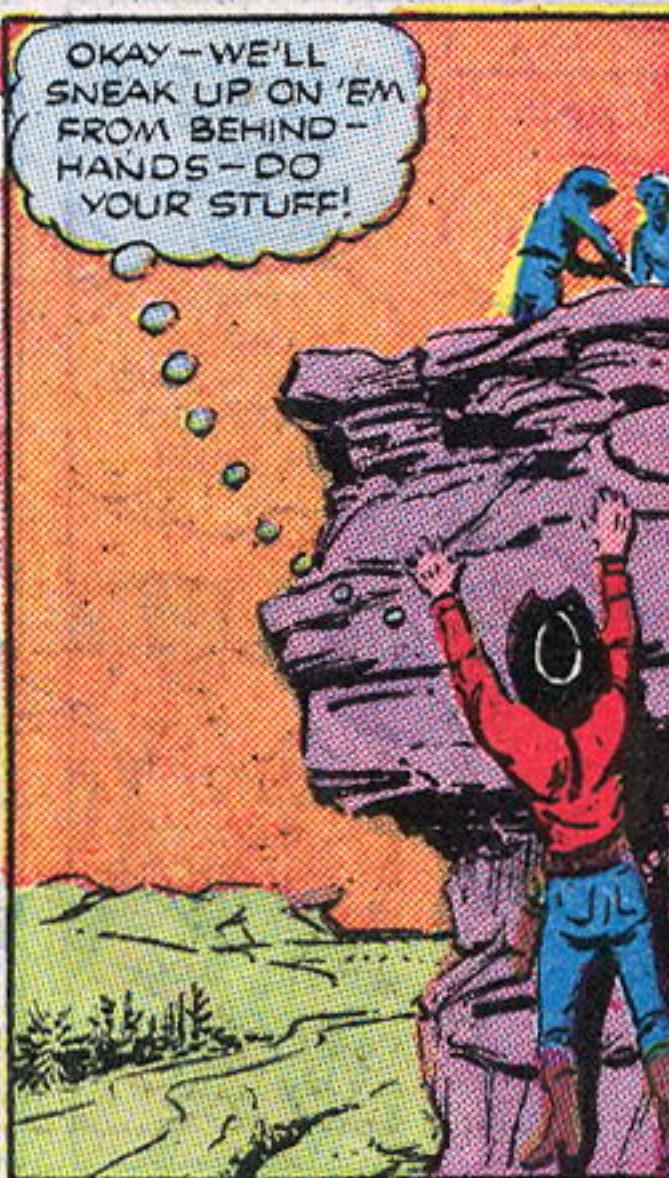
AN HOUR LATER - IN BOX CANYON...

HUH - BUMPER DIDN'T UNDER-ESTIMATE OUR AMIGOS! THEY'VE CLOSED THE LOW ROAD TO THE CANYON! OKAY - I'LL TAKE THE HIGH ROAD!



...THEY'VE STARTED TO DIG ALREADY! THAT DOESN'T GIVE ME MUCH TIME TO SAVE ADCOCK! IF I RUSH 'EM FROM HERE - THEY'RE A CINCH TO DROP ME!

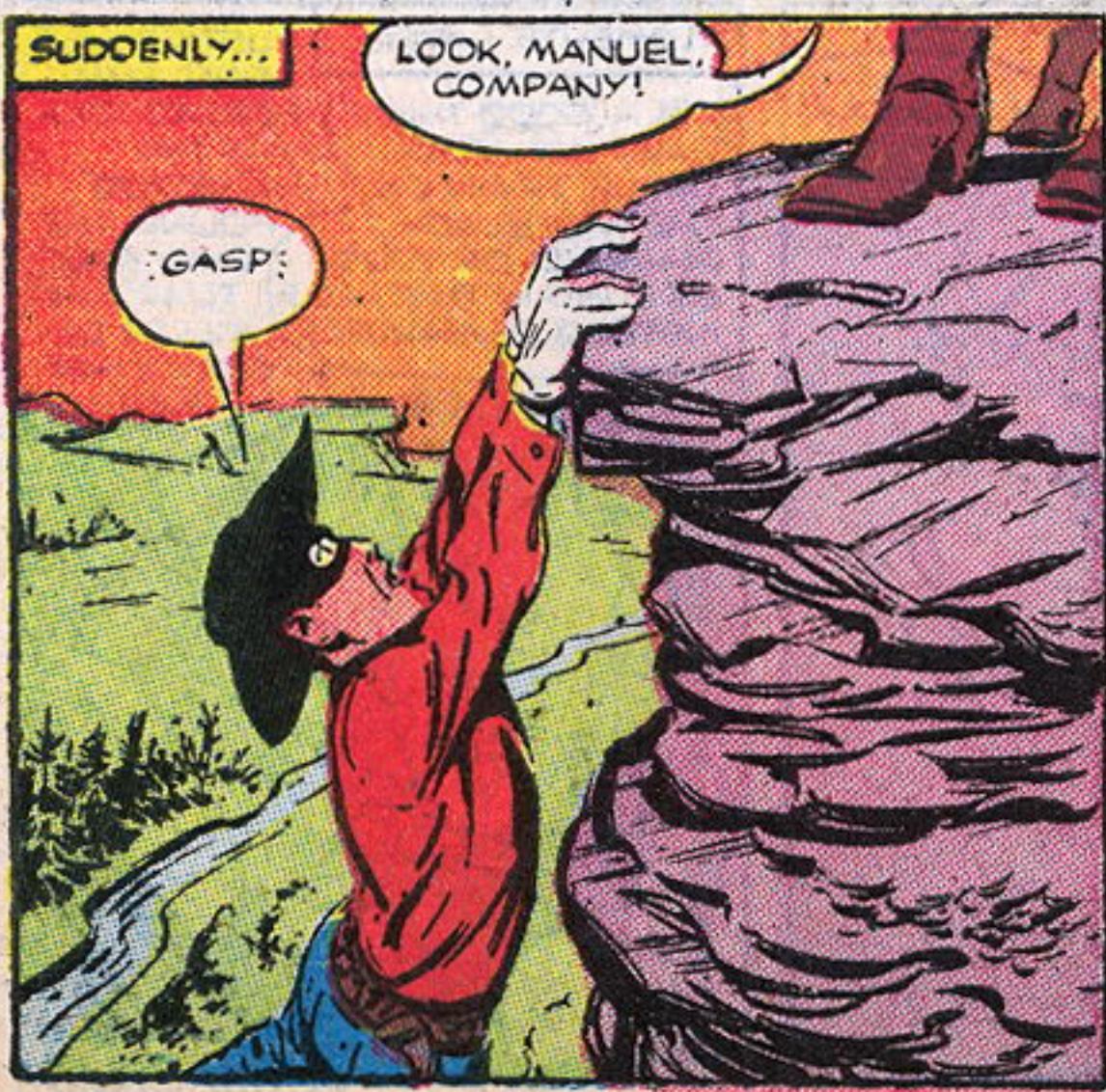
OKAY - WE'LL SNEAK UP ON 'EM FROM BEHIND - HANDS - DO YOUR STUFF!



SUDDENLY...

LOOK, MANUEL, COMPANY!

GASP:

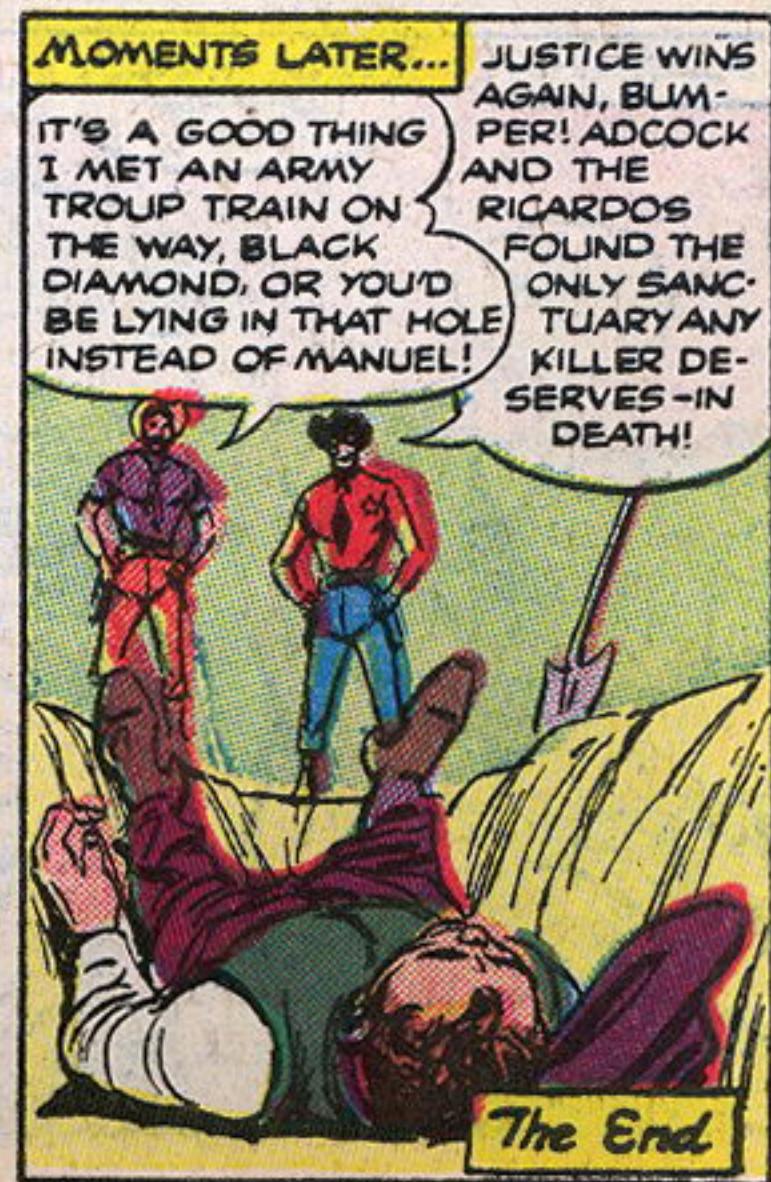
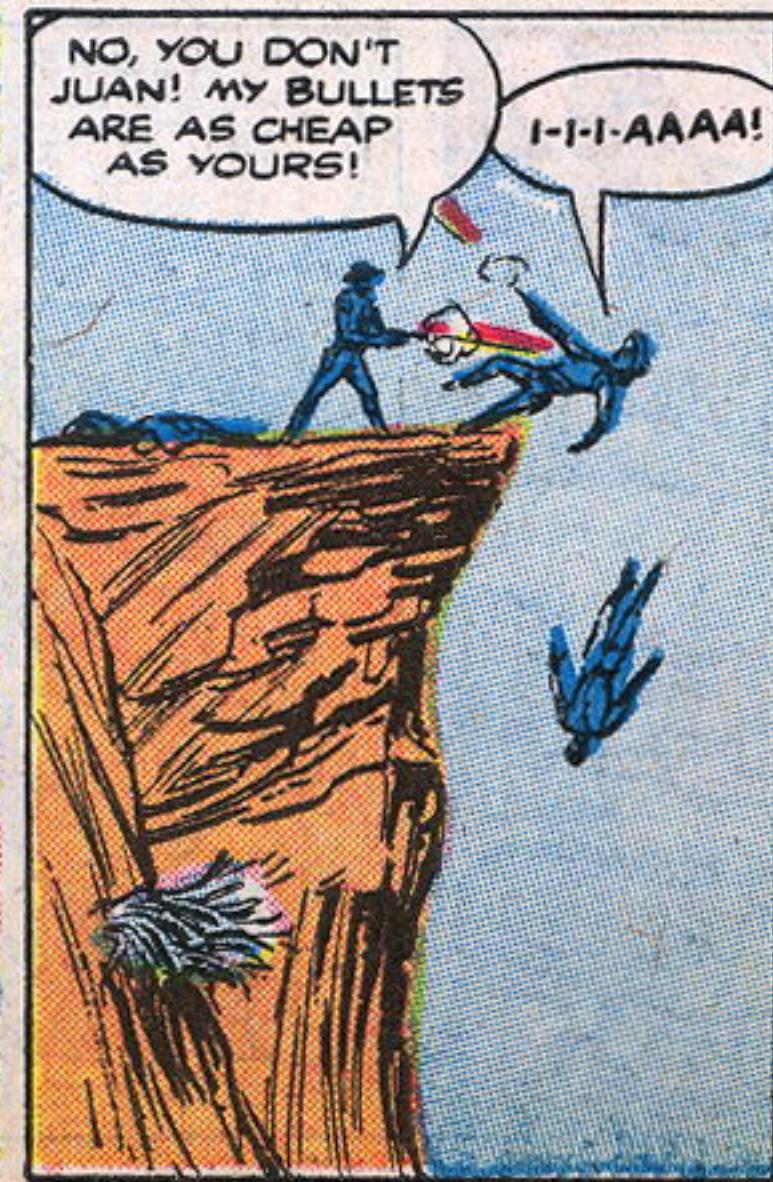
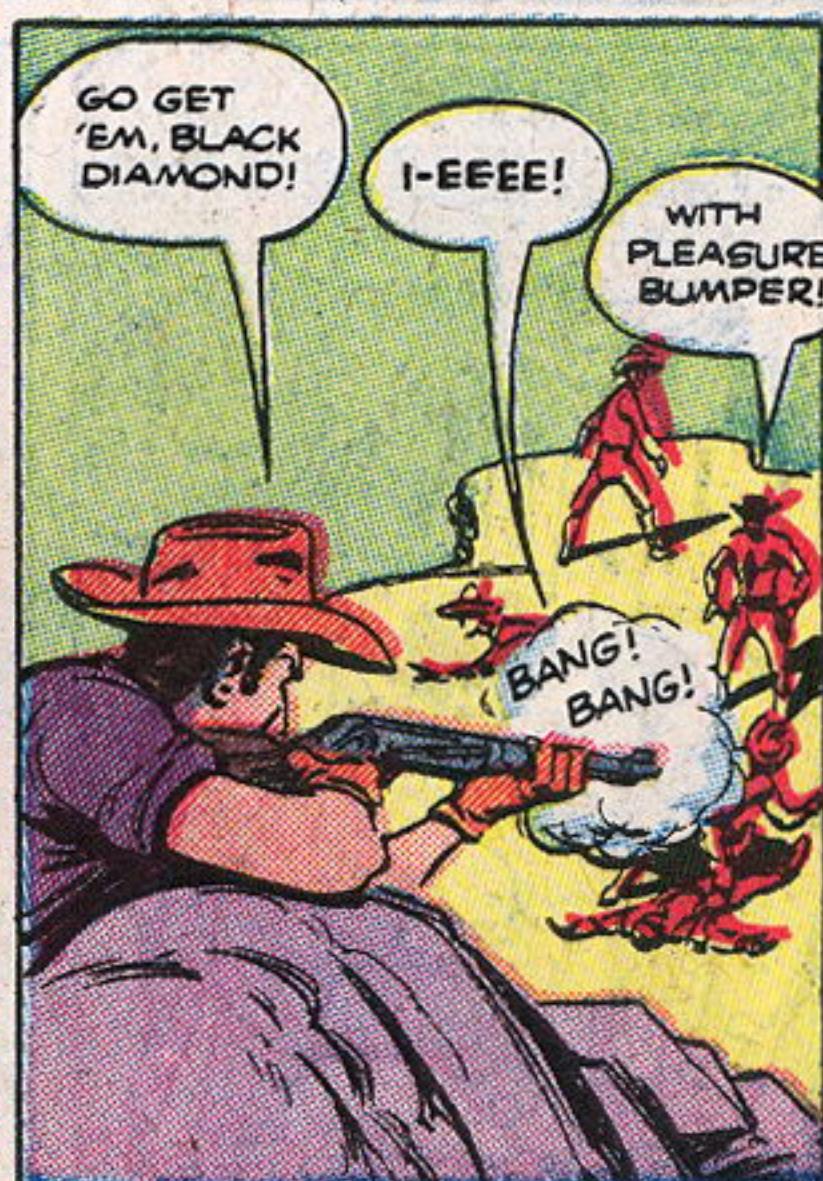


NO BULLETS, JUAN, PLEASE! BULLETS COST MONEY... BUT A GENTLE KICK - HEH - AND THE BLACK DIAMOND PLUNGES TO AN "ACCIDENTAL" DEATH!

NO.. NO... WAIT! IT WILL DO YOU NO GOOD TO KILL ME...



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN



SAVE! INTRODUCTORY OFFER

\$2.69

**COLORFUL,
PLASTIC**

11-Piece Housewares Set

limited time
ONLY

\$

1

Adds Up To
An Actual
**\$2.69
VALUE**

APRONS

Full sized, with
colorful, life-
time designs

FOOD BAGS
Keep fruit, vege-
tables, leftovers
fresh and crisp

Made by the makers of the only line of its type to carry the
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING SEAL OF APPROVAL.

2 Full sized, gay, colorful Aprons with
beautiful matching ruffle.

1 All purpose, 54" by 48" Table Cloth—
perfect protection for your table—crystal
clear

3 Big, roomy Food Bags in different sizes
—extremely practical for many uses.

1 Sturdy Plastic Knife with saw-tooth
edge that easily cuts fruit, cheese and
other hard-to-cut foods.

3 Colorful Hollywood Bowl Covers with
elastic tops. Fit snugly over practically
any size bowl or container

Special Offer Saves You \$1.69

A kitchen full of colorful, practical housewares at a price
never before equalled. Every item made of fine quality,
durable plastic—Nylon thread stitching for extra wear and
washability. Color-fast in washing and fade-resistant.
Order today for yourself—or as a perfect gift for bridal
showers, weddings, bridge parties, etc.

**Plus lovely Cosmetic
Bag FREE!**

Order at once and get as FREE GIFT this smart,
pastel-colored cosmetic bag. Holds lipstick,
powder puff, other cosmetics—or use as attrac-
tive purse.

**MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
MAIL COUPON TODAY**

PEERLESS PLASTICS
Room 320, Pure Oil Building
Chicago 1, Ill.

SEND NO MONEY

PEERLESS PLASTICS, Room 320, Pure Oil Bldg., Chicago 1, Ill.

Send me _____ complete 11-piece Plastic Sets, including FREE
Cosmetic Bag.

I will pay postman \$1 for each set, plus postage
 I am enclosing \$1 for each set. You pay postage

Name _____

Address _____

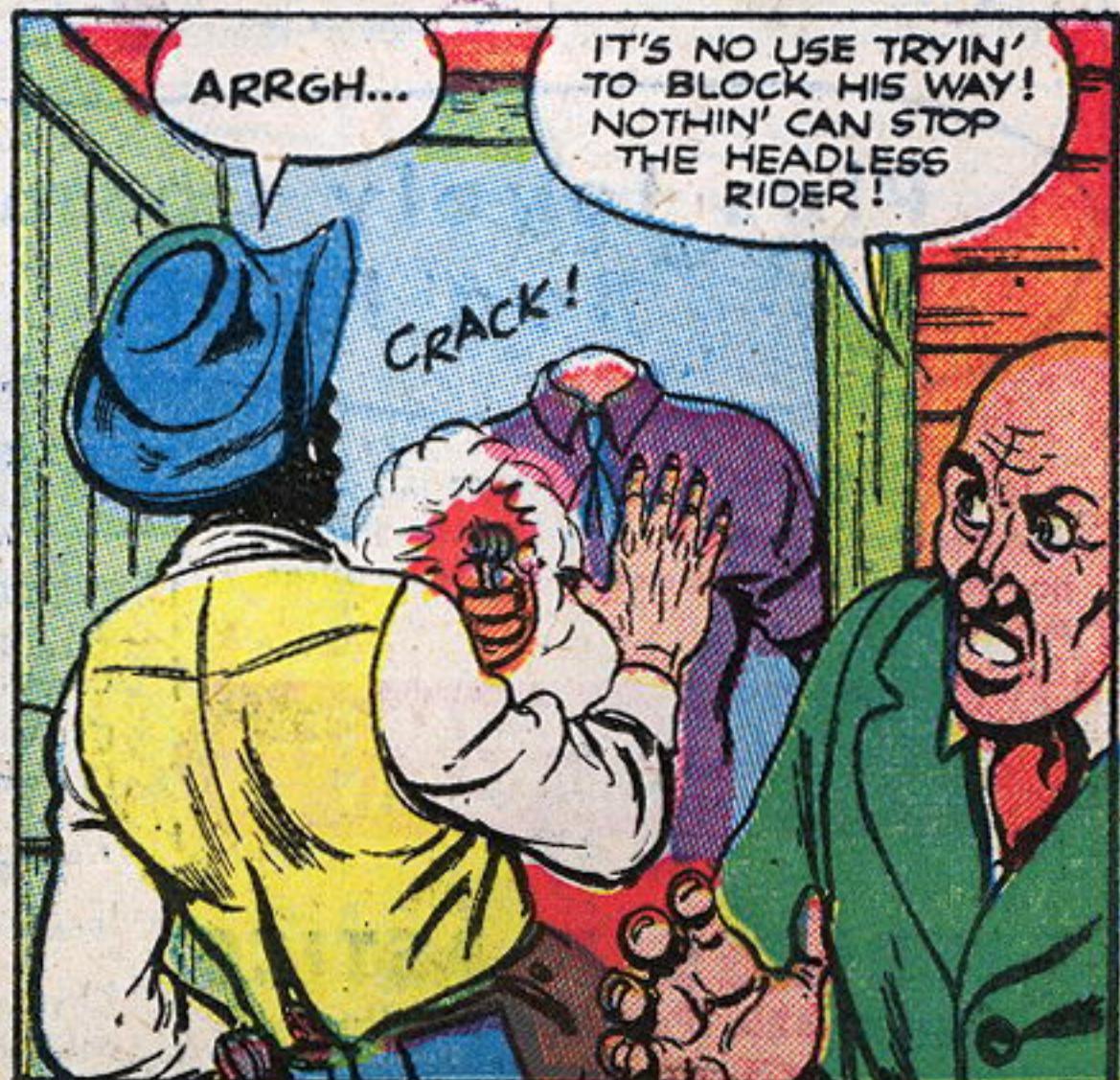
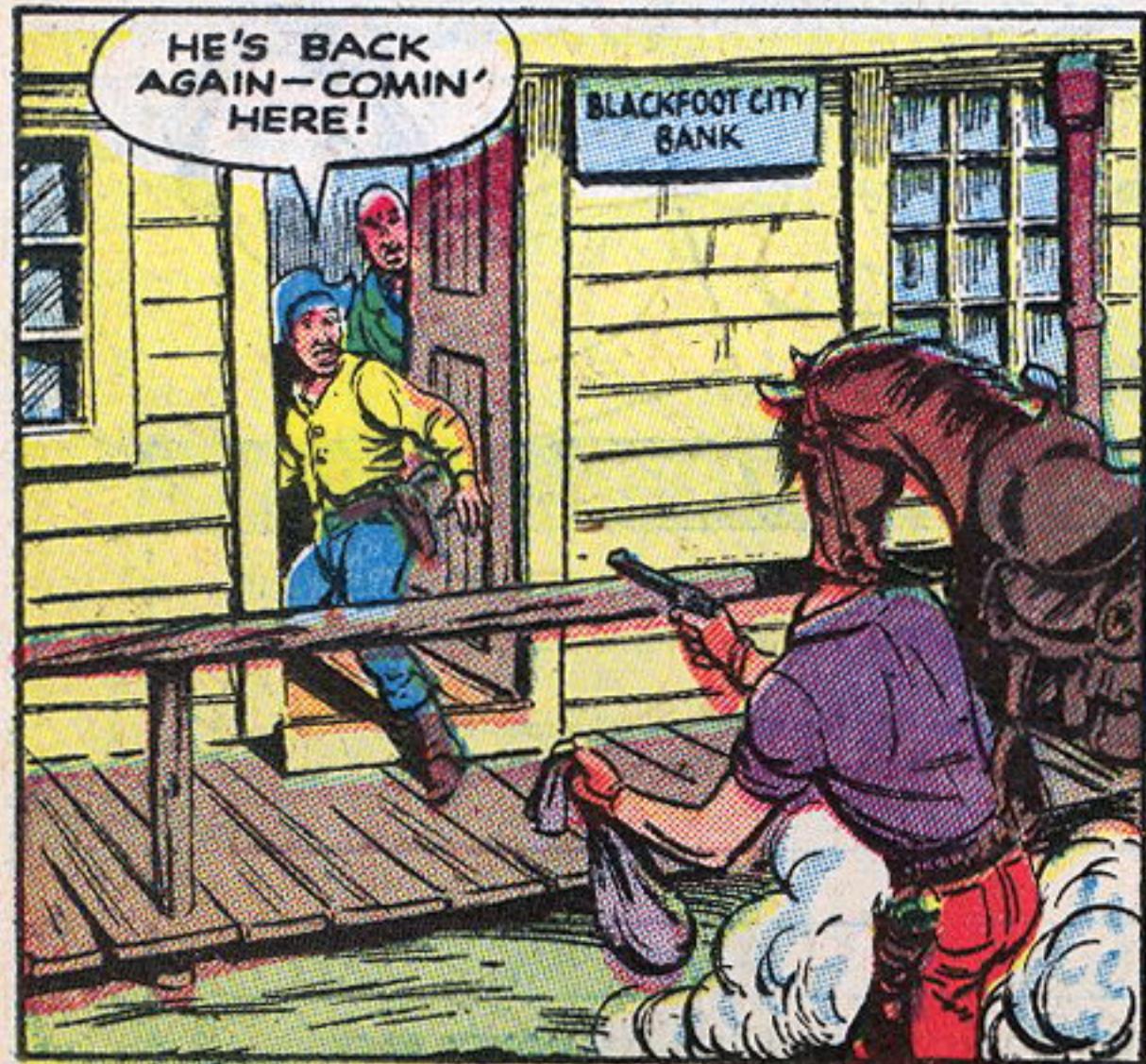
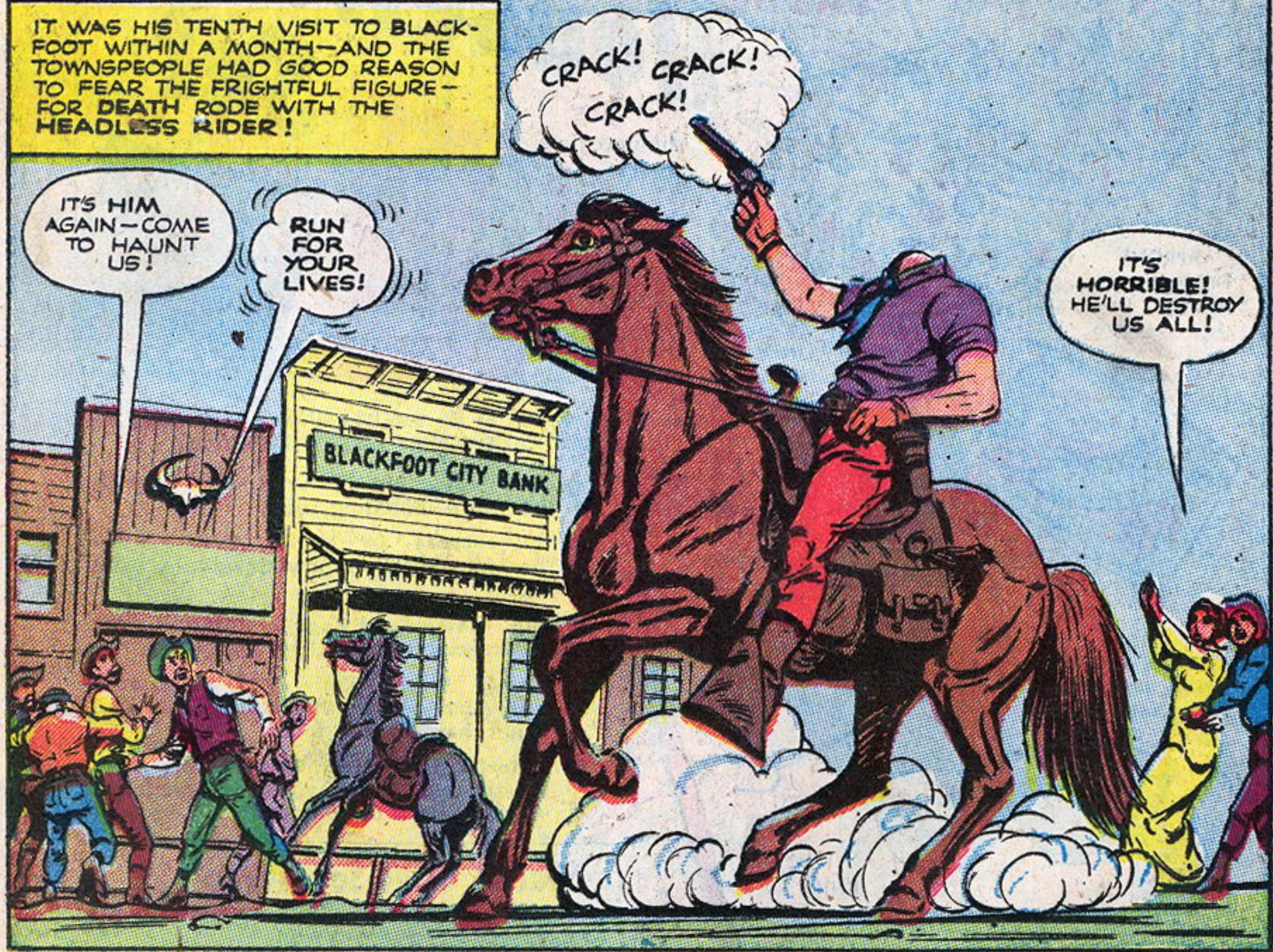
City _____ Zone No. _____ State _____

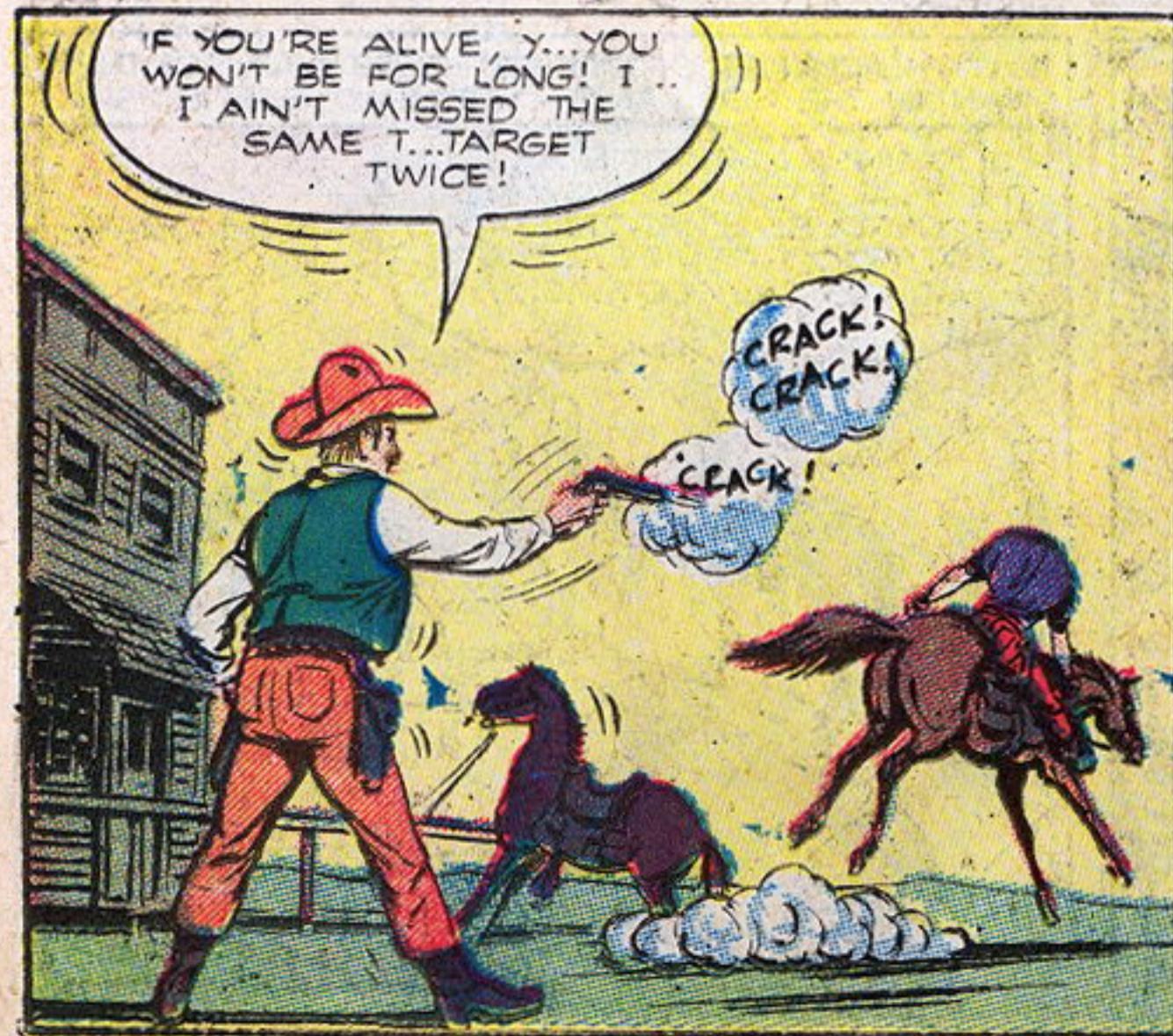
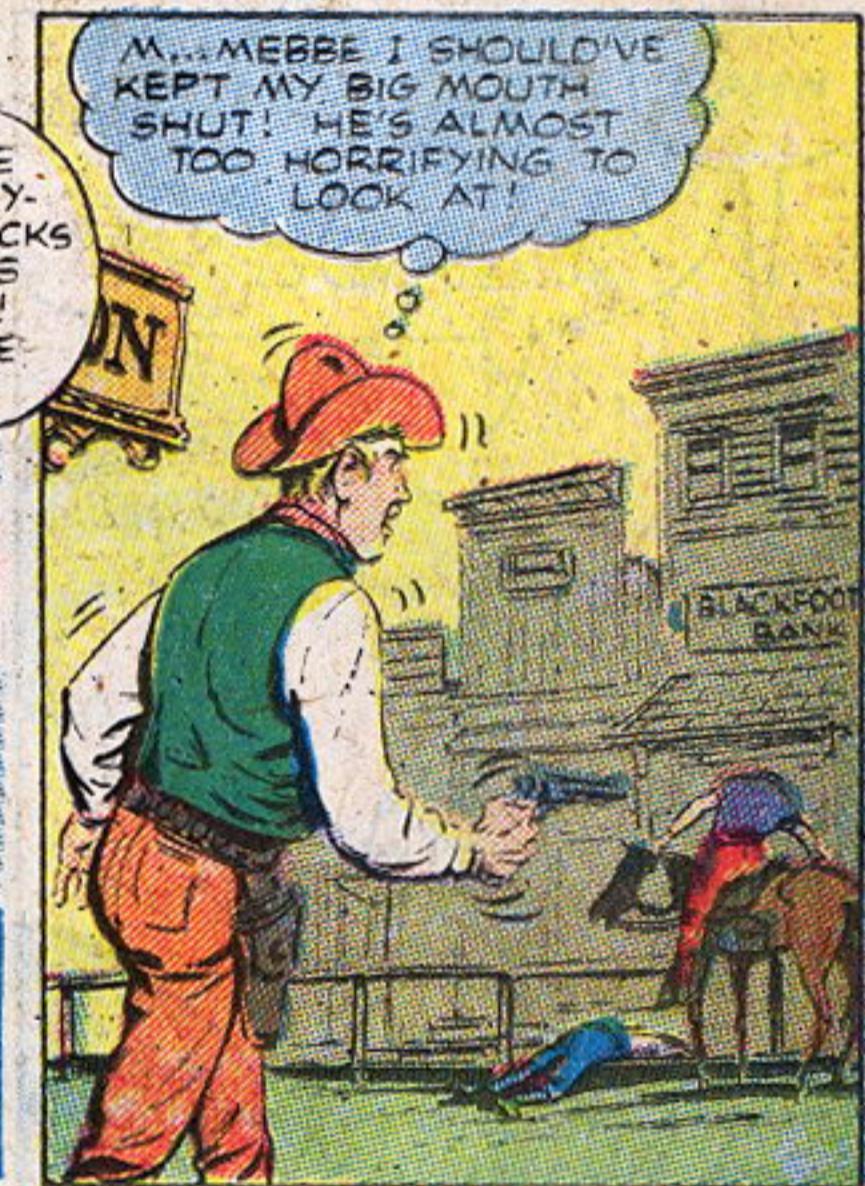
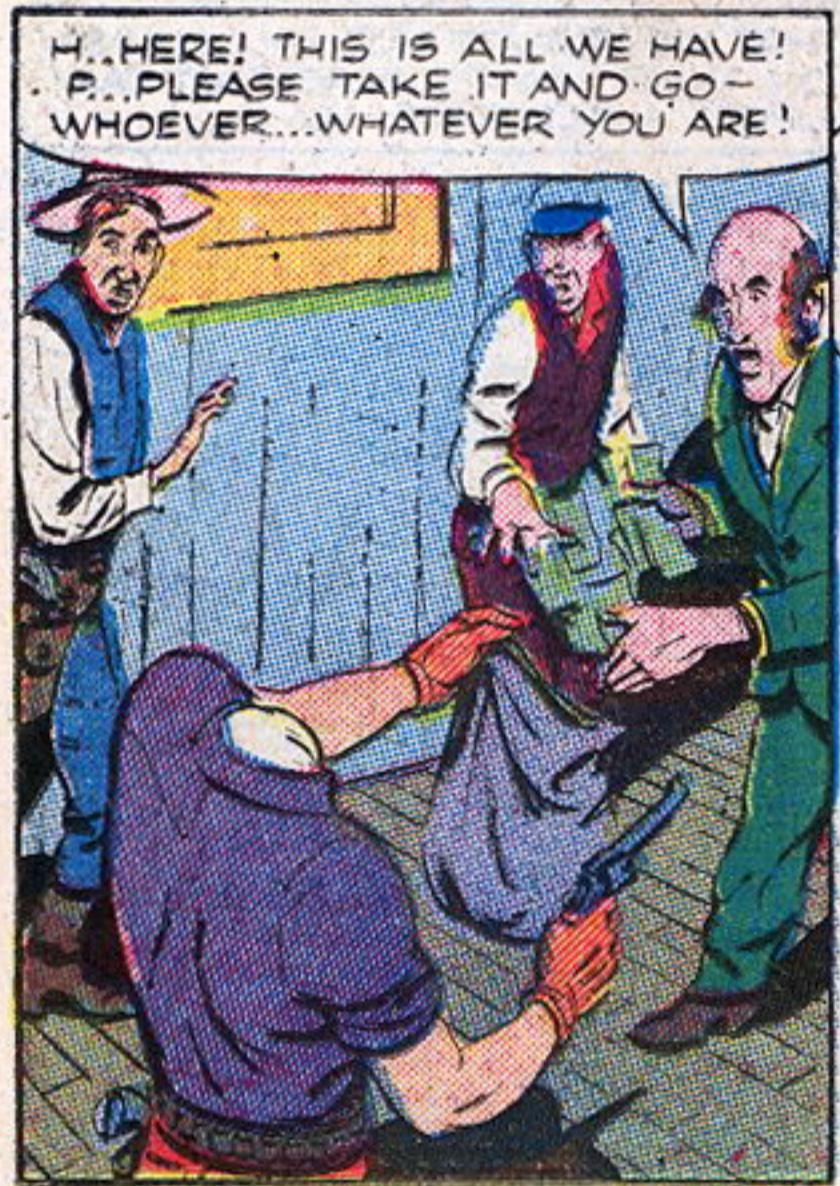
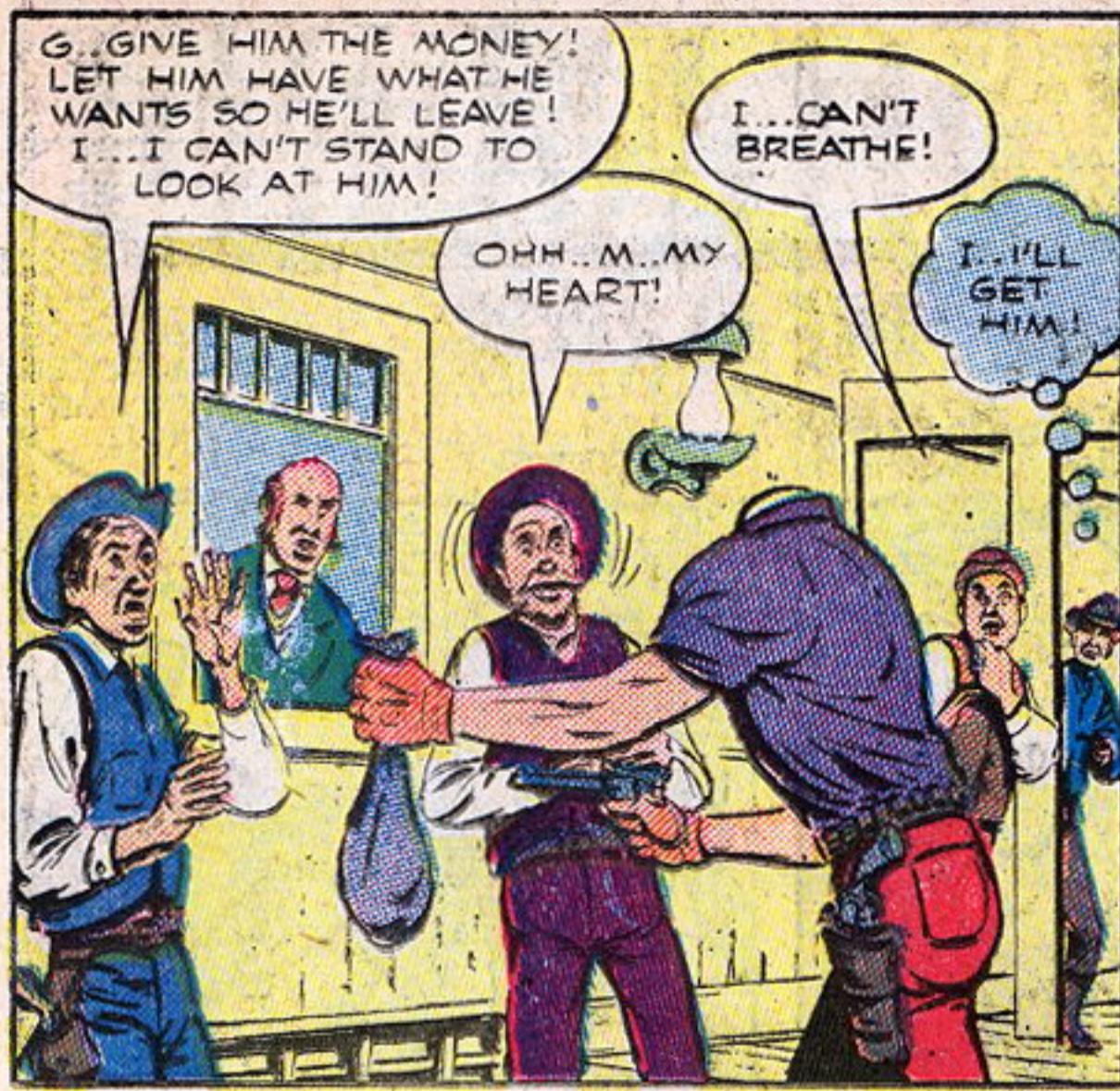
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED—OR MONEY BACK

RIDE WITH

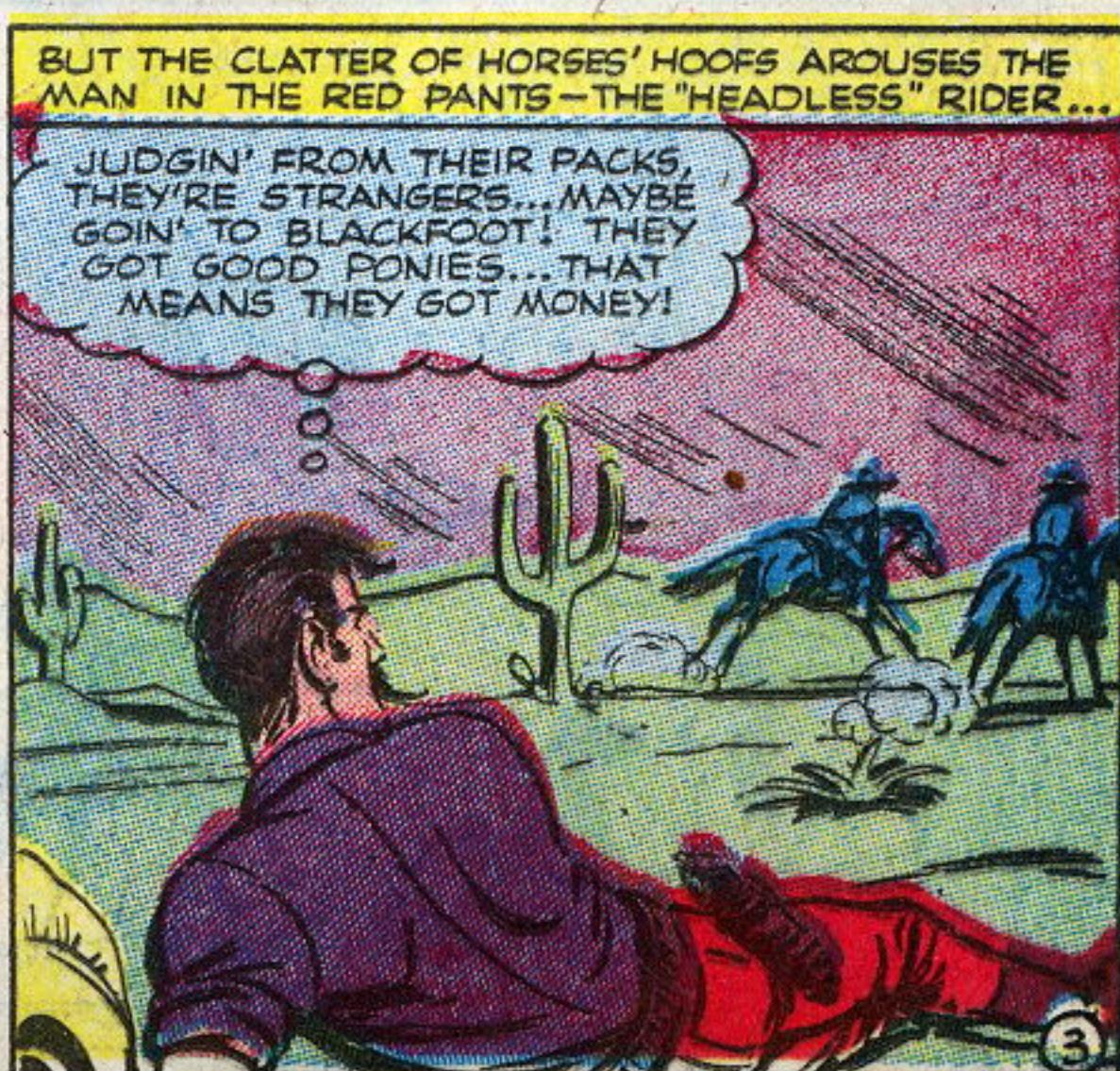
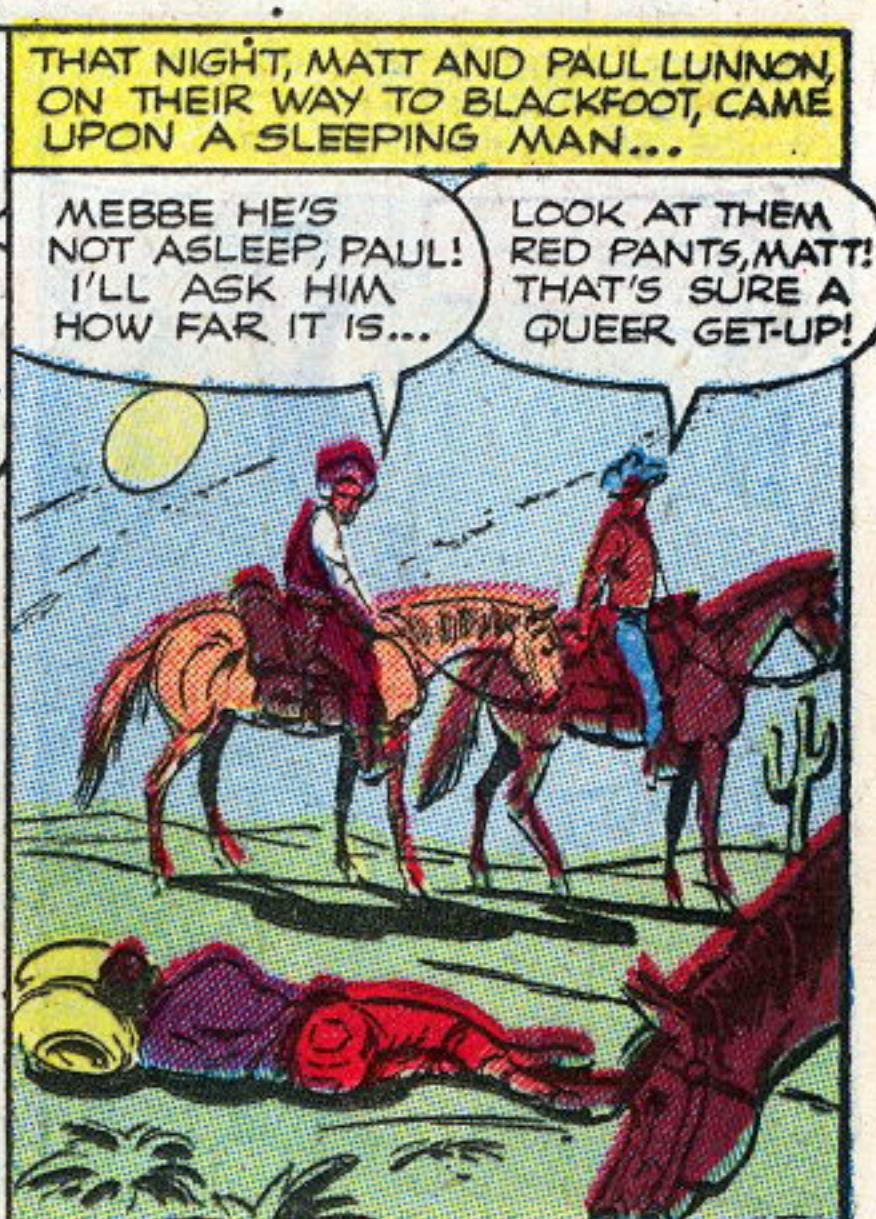
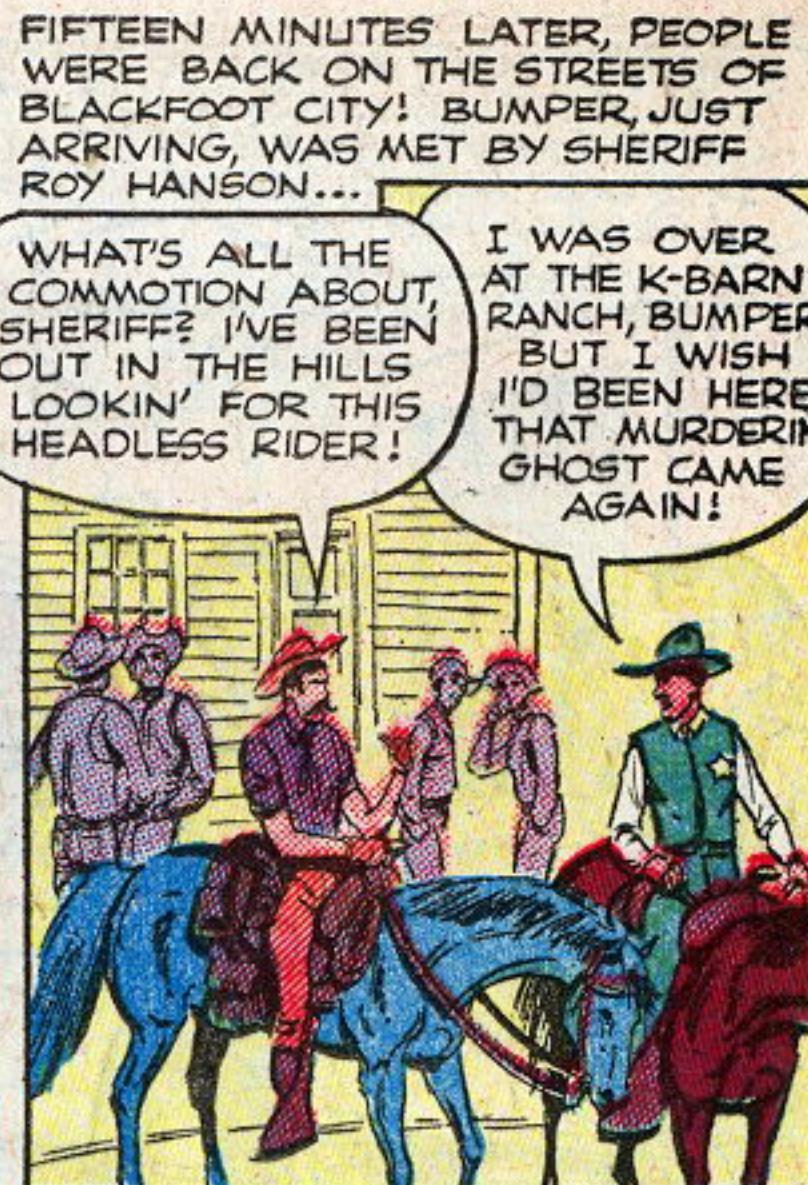
BLACK DIAMONDas he matches wits with "THE TERROR
of the HEADLESS RIDER"

IT WAS HIS TENTH VISIT TO BLACK-FOOT WITHIN A MONTH—AND THE TOWNSPEOPLE HAD GOOD REASON TO FEAR THE FRIGHTFUL FIGURE—FOR DEATH RODE WITH THE HEADLESS RIDER!





BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

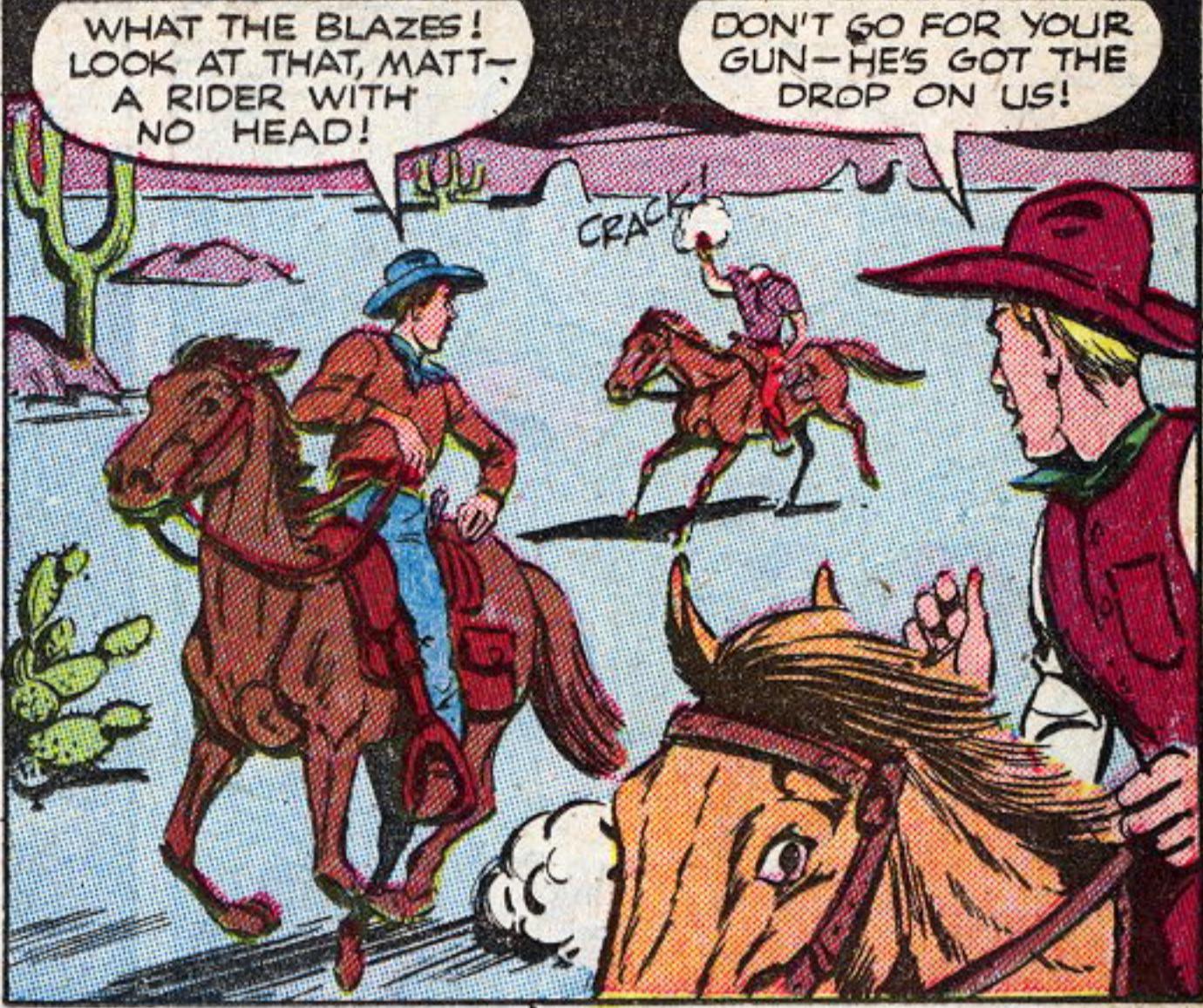


BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

IF THEY'RE TAKIN' MONEY INTO BLACKFOOT
I'LL BE GETTIN' IT SOONER OR LATER ANY-
HOW, SO I MIGHT AS WELL GET IT NOW!
LEASTWAYS THEY CAN TELL THEIR GRAND-
CHILDREN THEY MET THE
HEADLESS RIDER!

WHAT THE BLAZES!
LOOK AT THAT, MATT—
A RIDER WITH
NO HEAD!

DON'T GO FOR YOUR
GUN—HE'S GOT THE
DROP ON US!



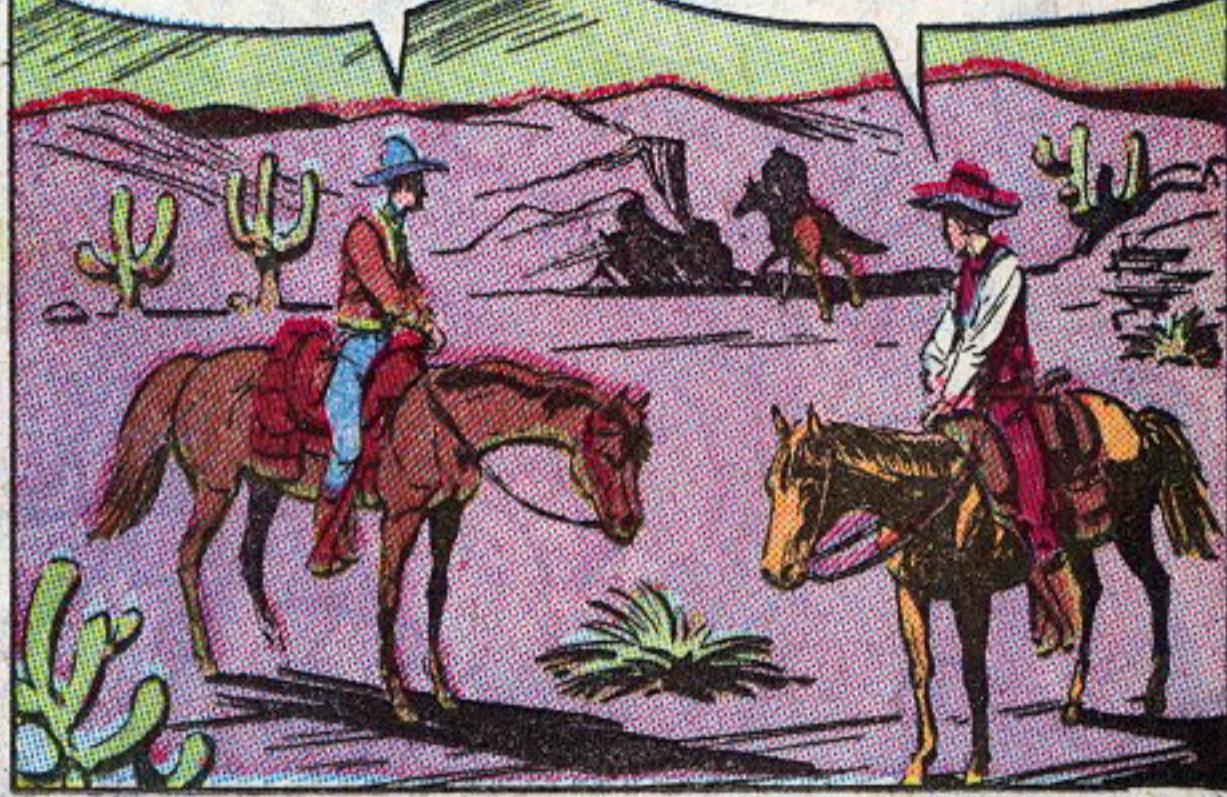
SAY—
I
KNOW...

SHUT UP, MATT—
HE JUST WANTS
OUR MONEY! LET
HIM TAKE IT
AND GO!



THERE GOES ALL THE
MONEY WE HAD TO
START THE RANCH WITH,
AND THAT FANCY RED
PANTS PULLS A
CRAZY TRICK LIKE
THAT AND TAKES
IT AWAY!

THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT
YOU TO LET ON WE SAW
HIM BEFORE! HE THINKS
HE'S GOT US BUFFALOED
WITH THAT GHOST RIDIN'
STUNT, BUT WE'LL KNOW
HIS FACE THE NEXT TIME
WE SEE HIM!

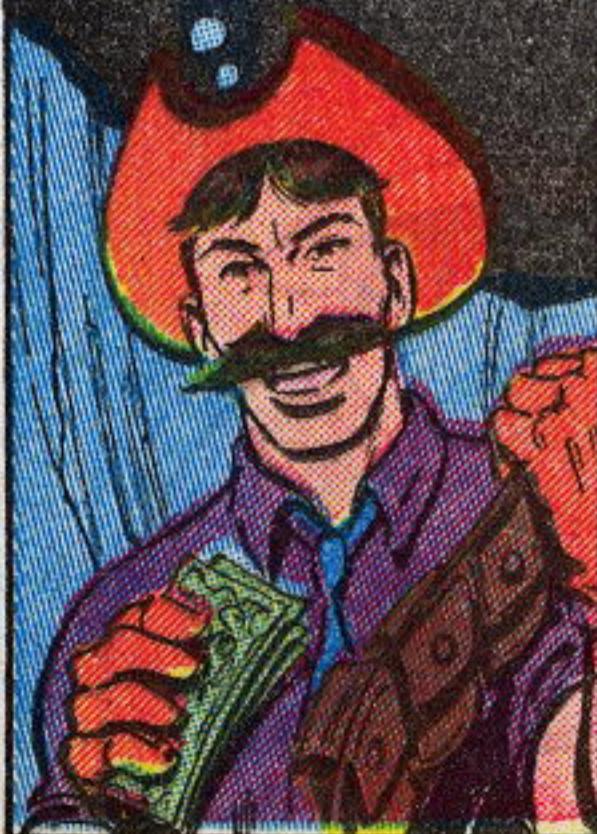


TEN MINUTES LATER...

IT'LL BE RIGHT AMUSIN' TO
VISIT TOWN AND HEAR ALL
THEM SCARED RABBITS TALKIN'
ABOUT ME! I'LL BE THERE
WITH 'EM IN THE SALOON—
THE HEADLESS RIDER
DRINKIN' BEER! HAW HAW!



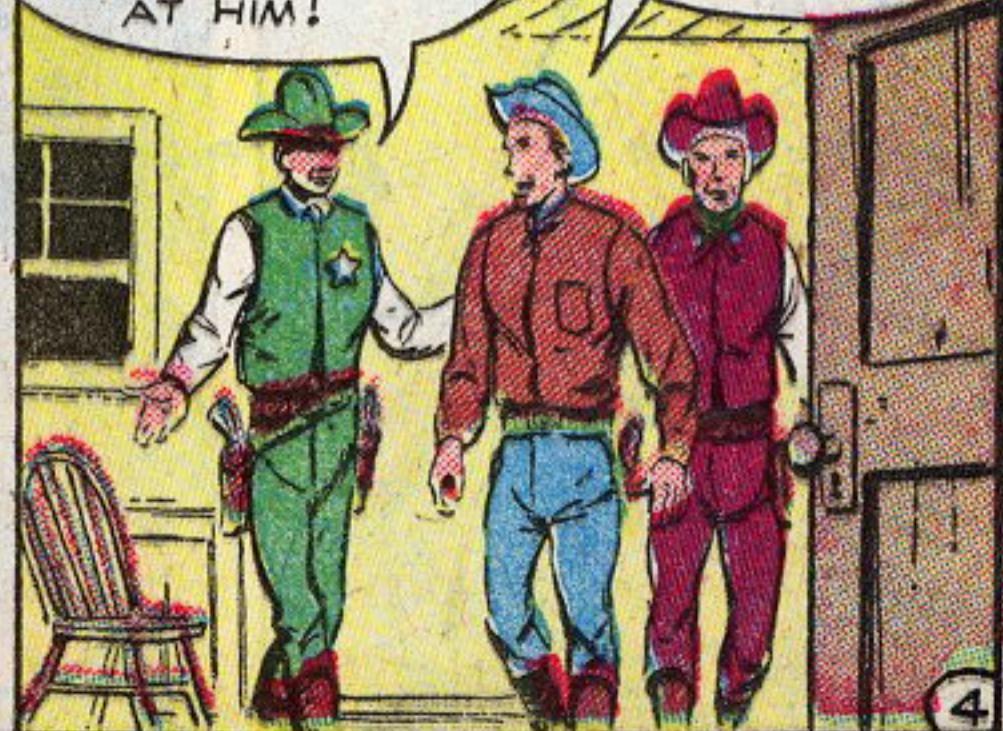
I WAS RIGHT—THEM
STRANGERS SURE HAD A
PILE OF MONEY WITH
'EM! I'M GOIN' TO HAVE
ME A REAL BIG TIME
IN BLACKFOOT
TONIGHT!



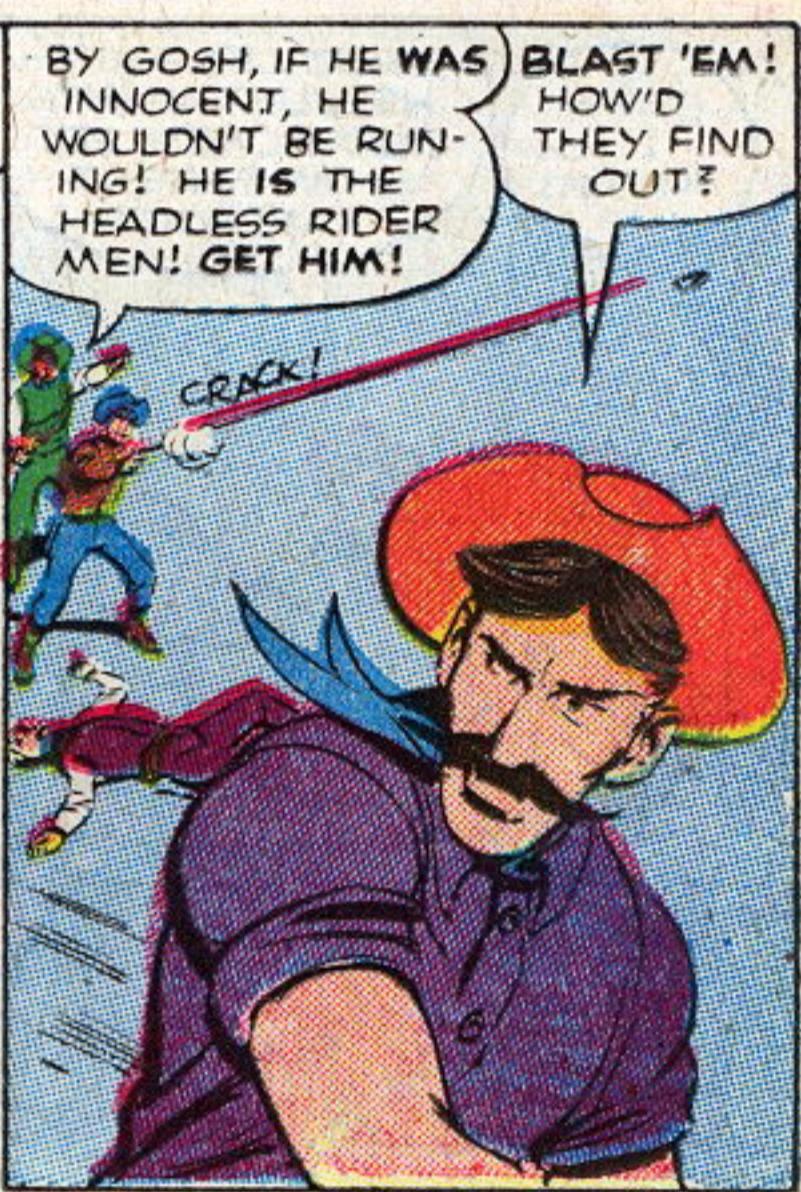
AN HOUR LATER, PAUL AND MATT LUNNON
REPORTED TO SHERIFF HANSON IN BLACKFOOT..

I'VE GOT TO ADMIT I
FEEL BETTER MYSELF,
KNOWIN' THIS "HEAD-
LESS RIDER" IS FLESH
AND BLOOD—HE'S
JUST HAD PEOPLE
TOO SCARED TO
SHOOT STRAIGHT
AT HIM!

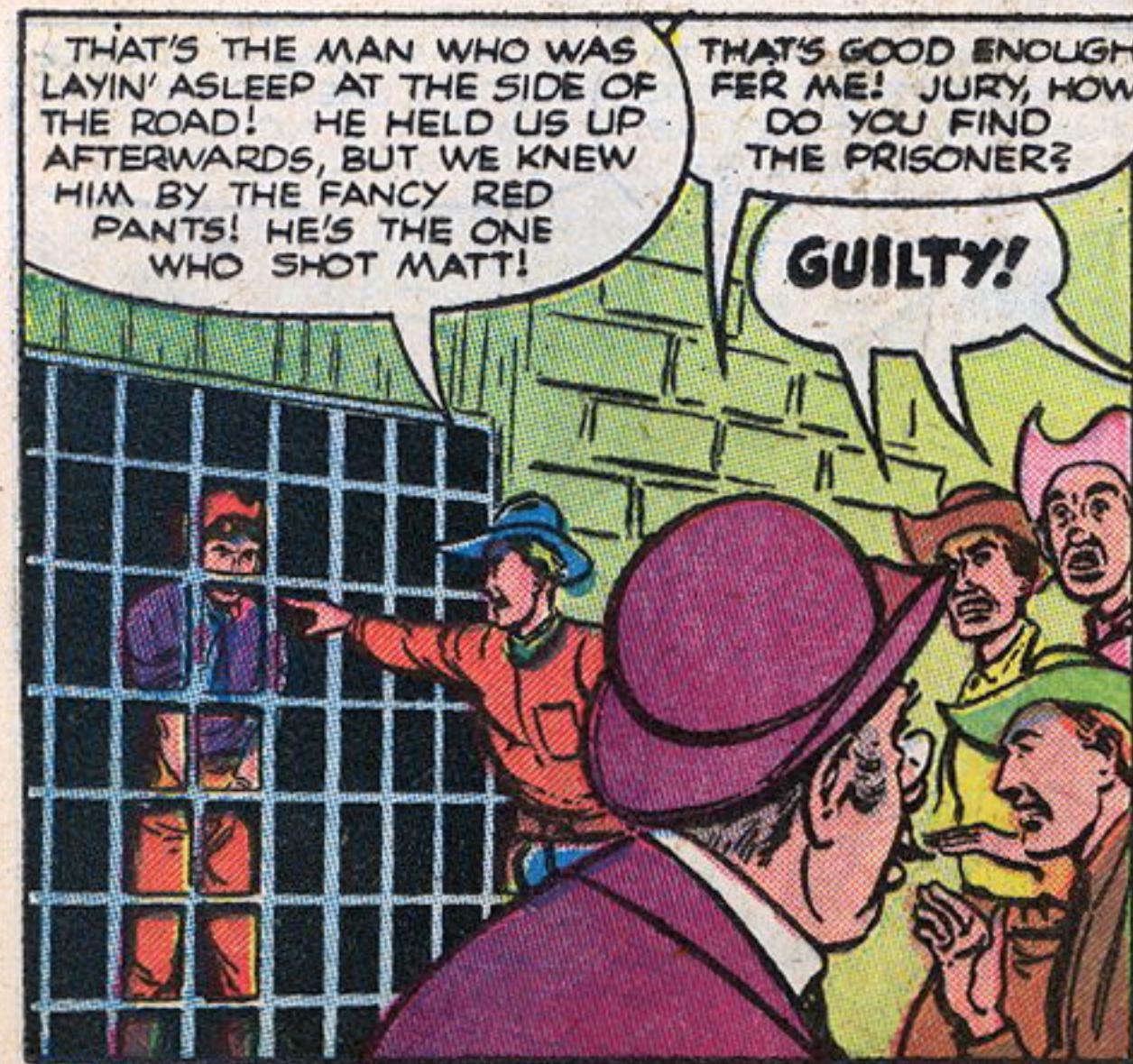
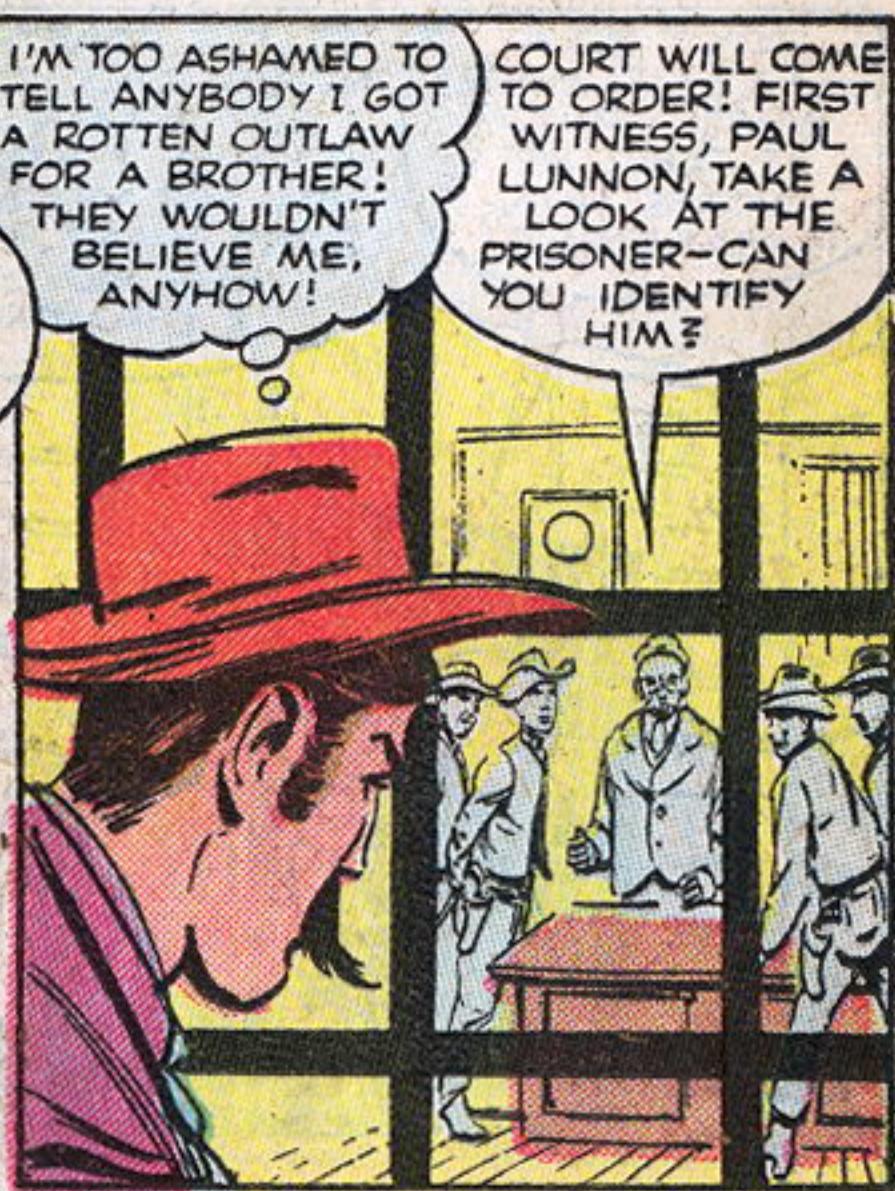
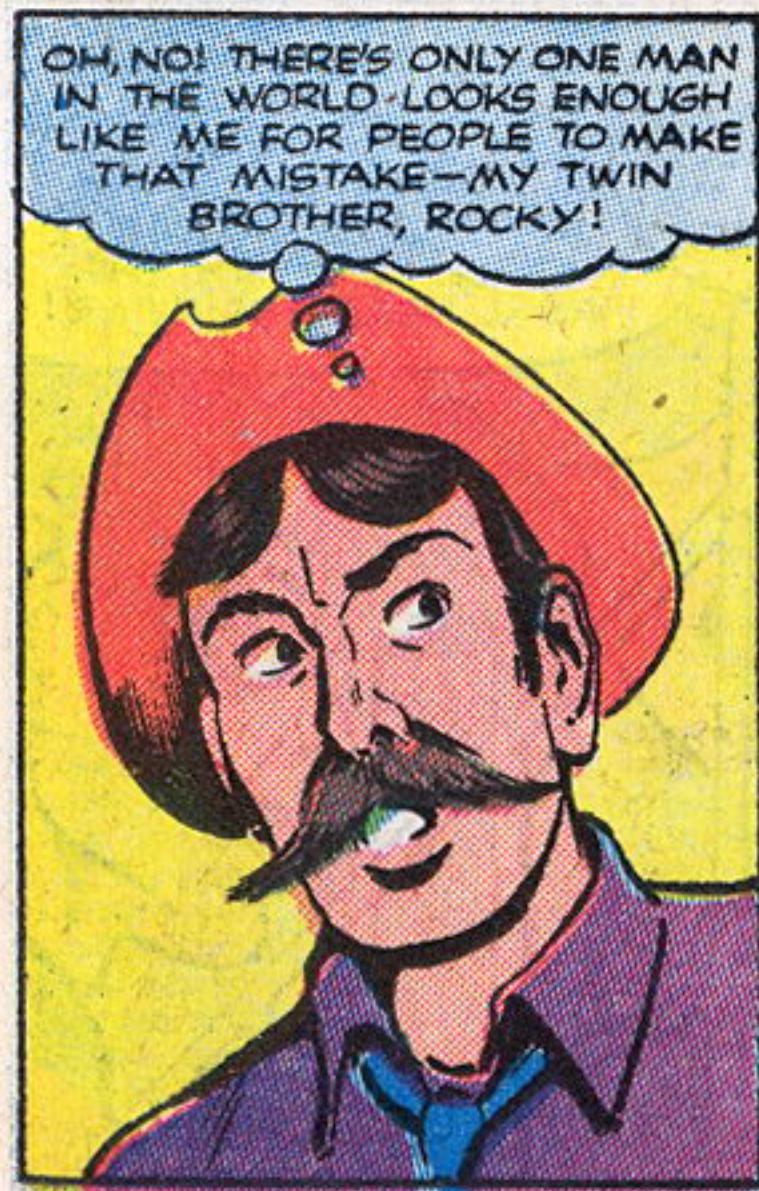
HE TOOK ALL THE
MONEY WE'VE
SAVED FOR YEARS—
TWENTY-FIVE
THOUSAND
DOLLARS! WE'VE
GOT TO GET
IT BACK!



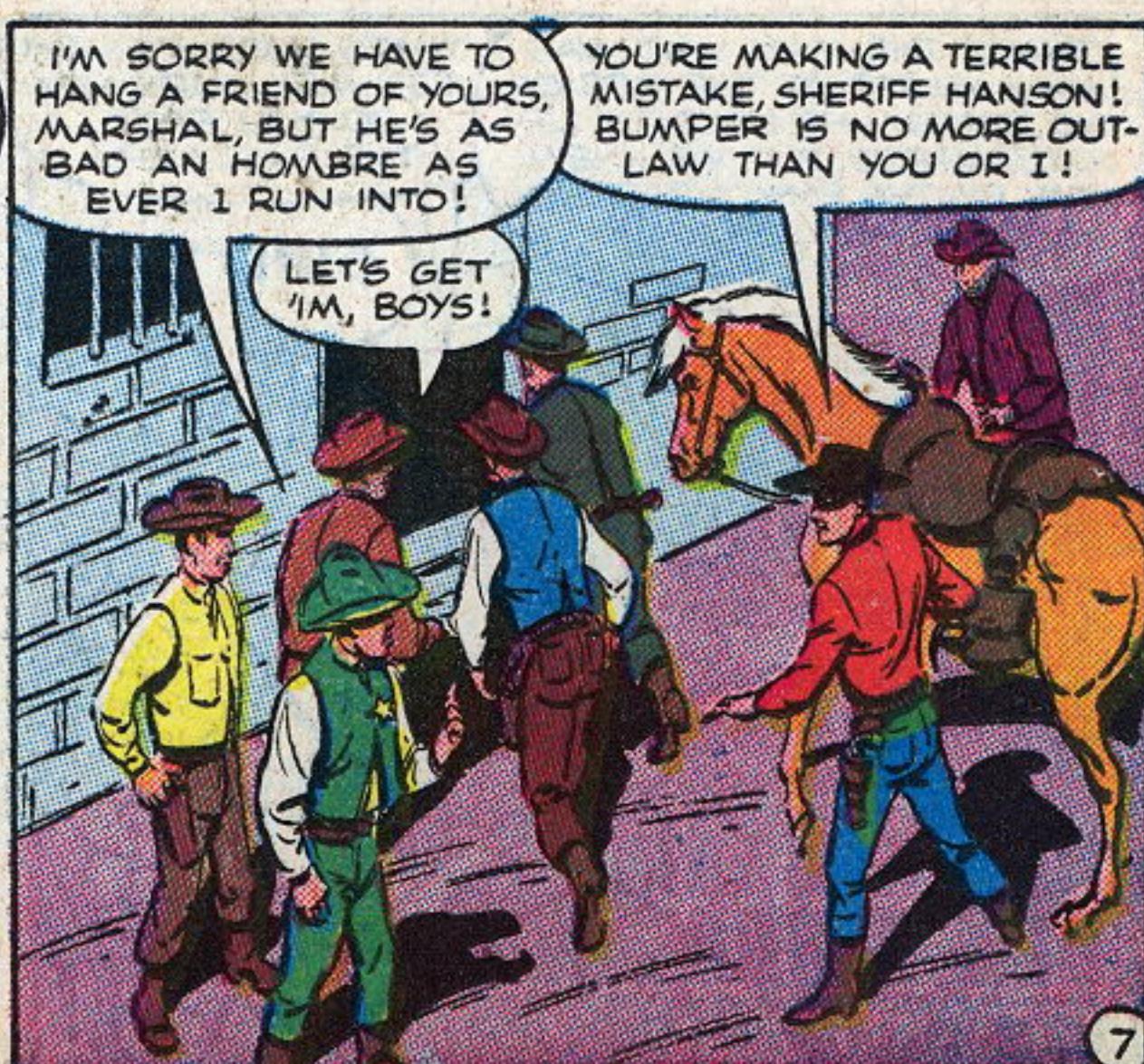
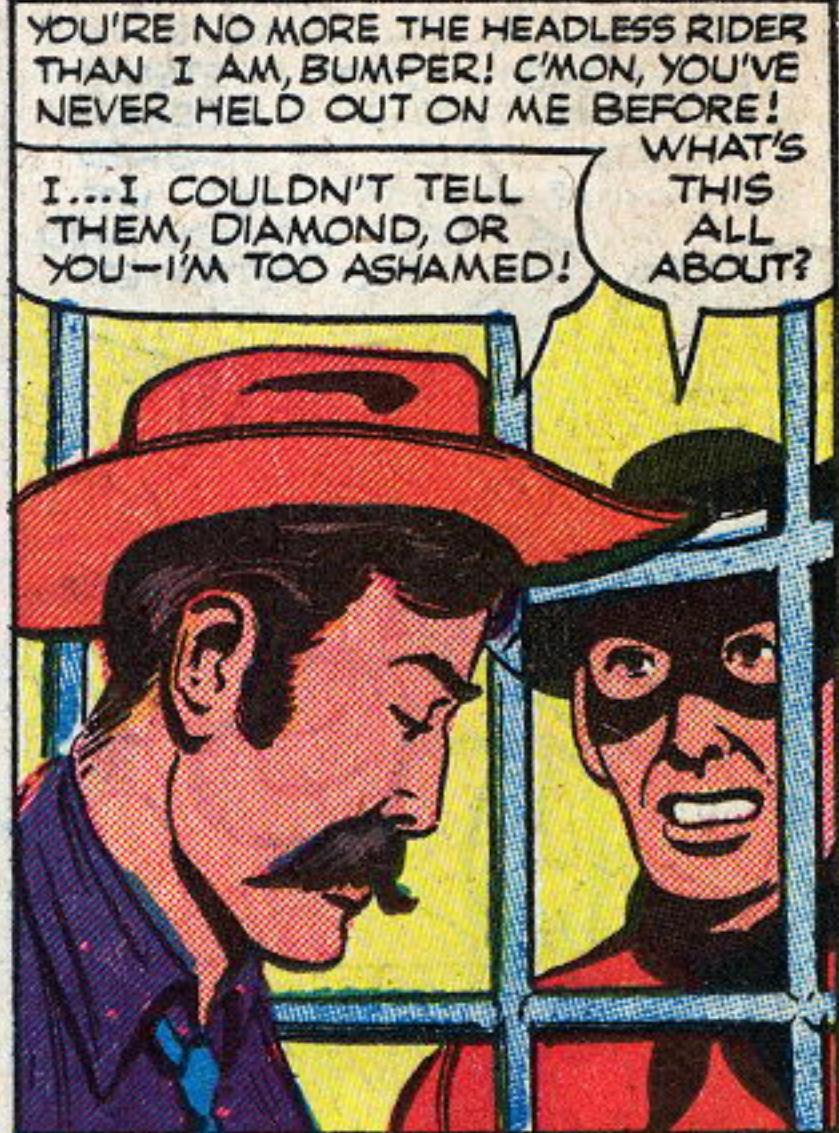
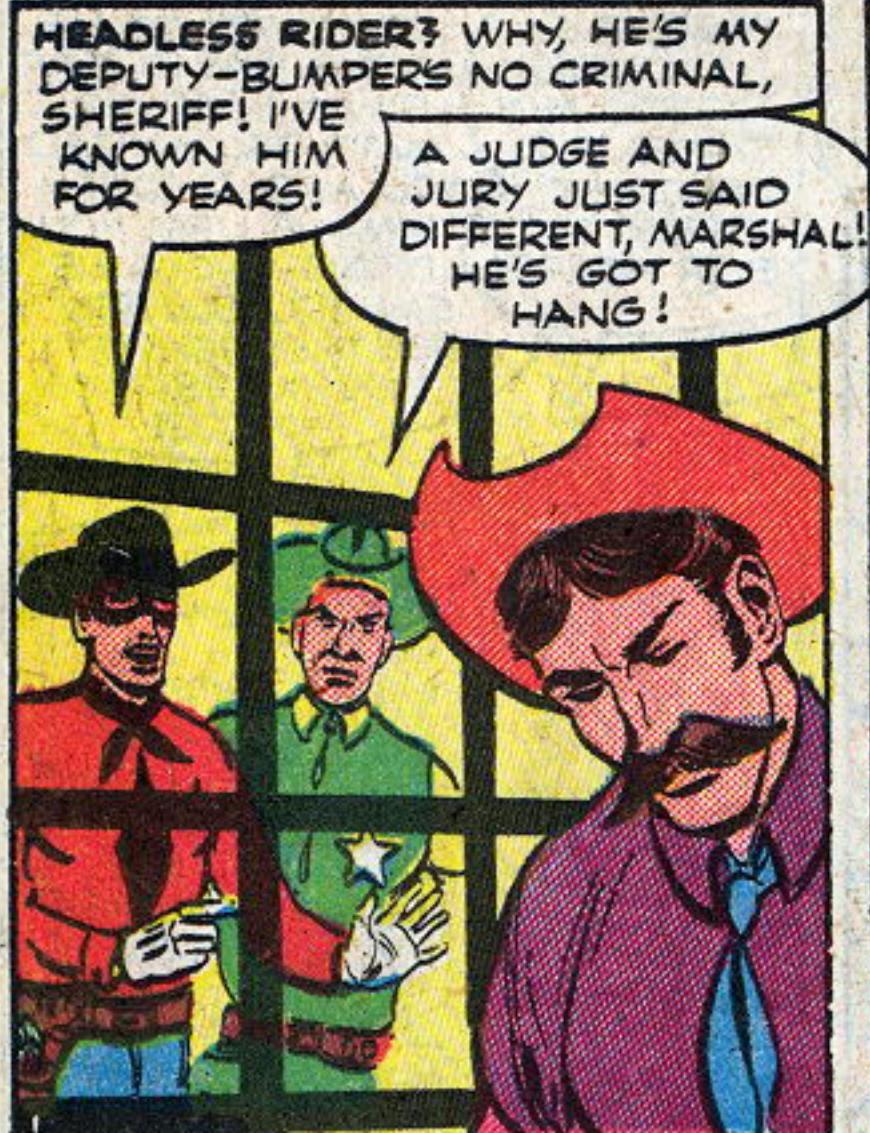
BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

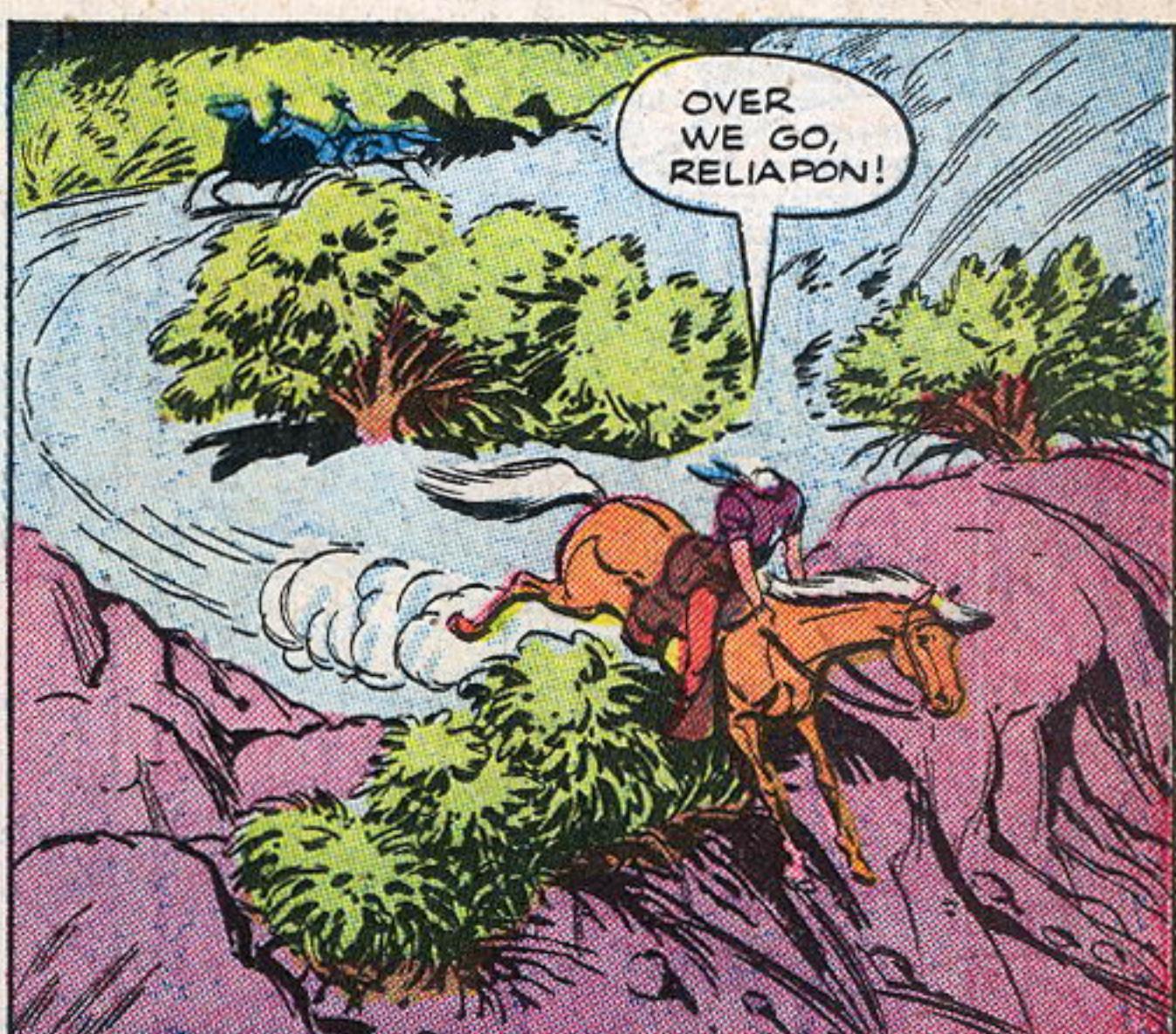
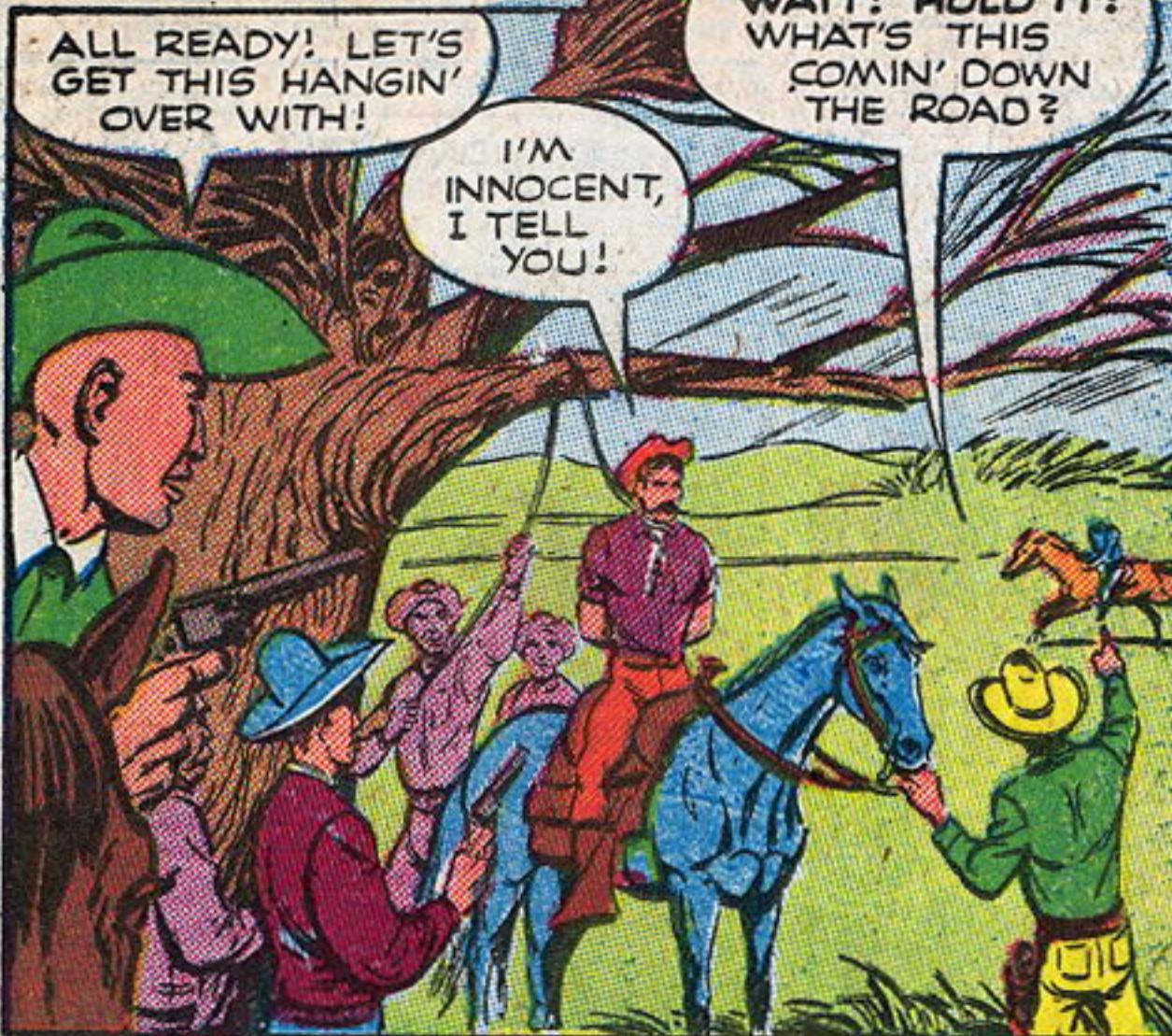


BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

TWENTY MINUTES LATER...



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

A SHORT WHILE LATER, IN BUMPER'S HOTEL ROOM...

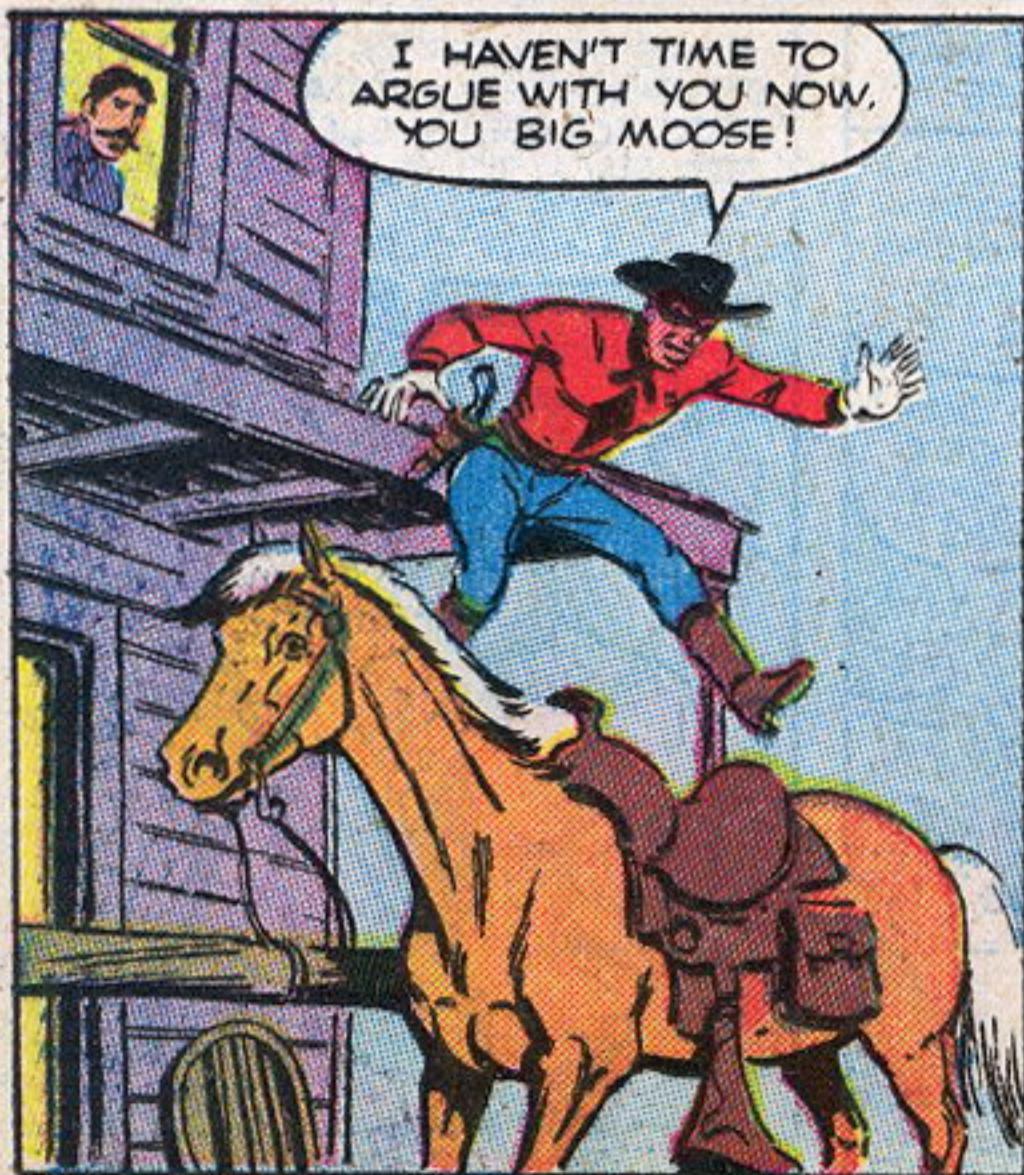
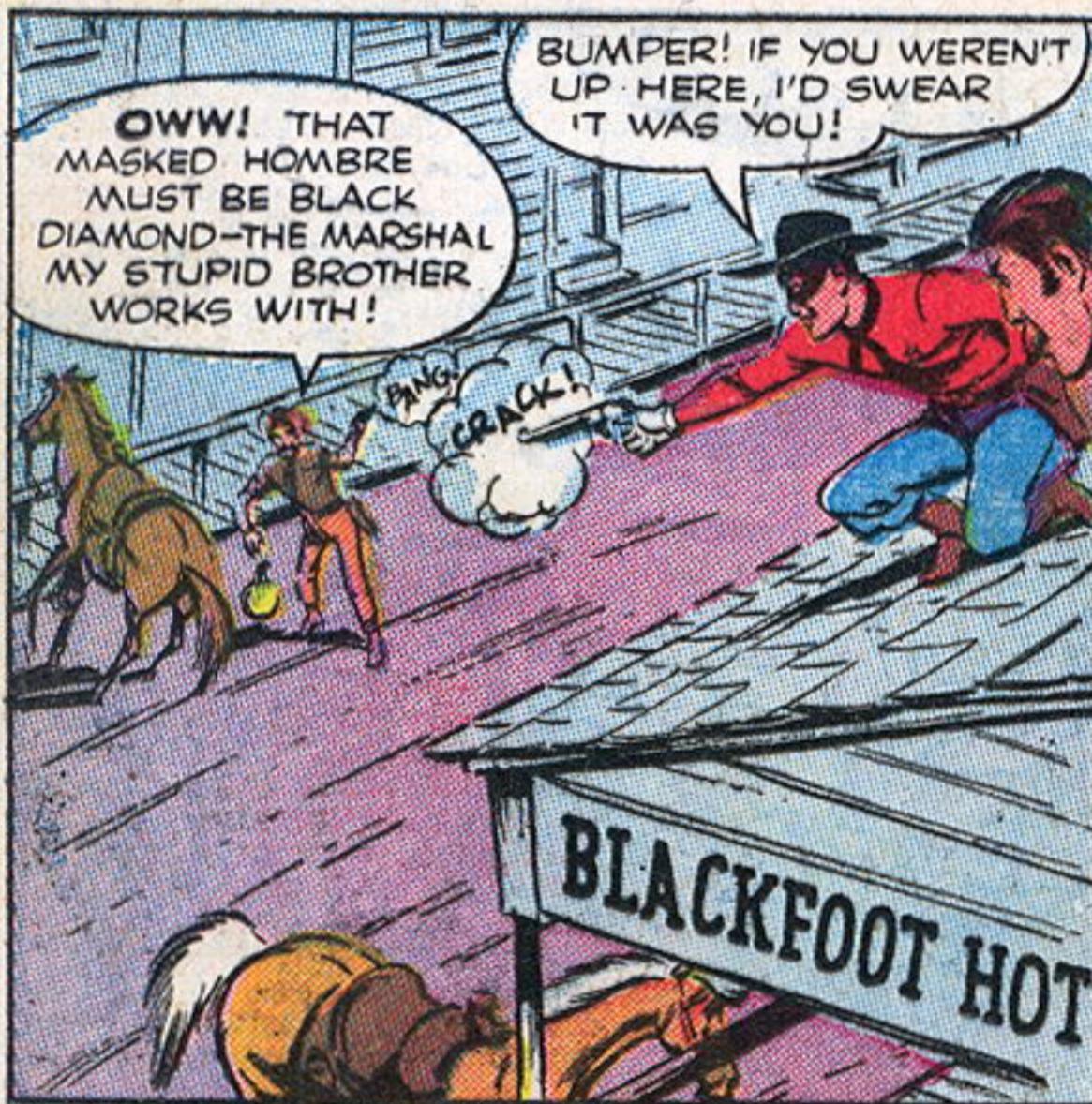
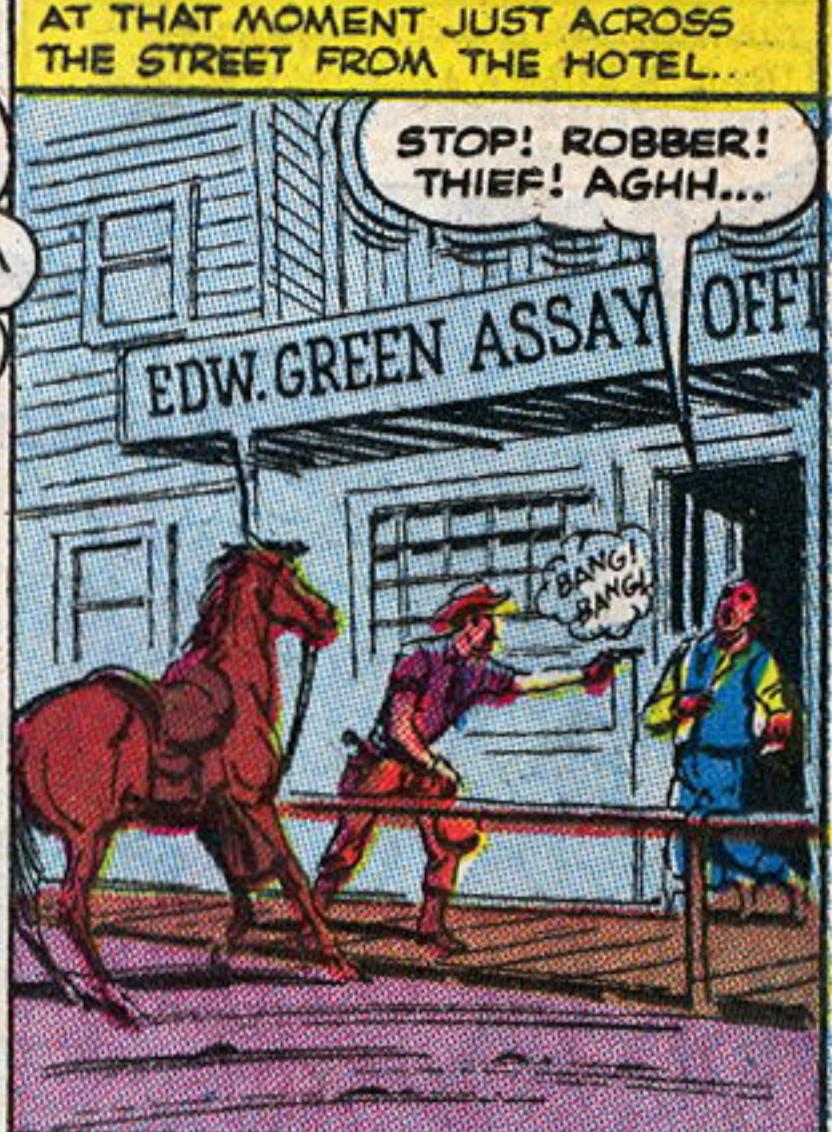
THANKS MASKED MAN, FOR SENDIN' THE POSSE CHASIN' THEIR OWN SHADOWS! THAT'LL GIVE ME PLENTY OF TIME TO PAY BLACKFOOT ONE LAST VISIT AND CLEAN OUT THE PLACE!

SURE, I KNEW IT WAS YOU POSIN' AS THE HEADLESS RIDER! YOU'RE THE ONLY MAN WHO CAN RIDE LIKE HE WAS PART OF RELIAPON! THANKS FOR WHAT YOU DID!

YOUR OWN CLOTHES SAVED YOU FROM A TIGHT SPOT, BUMPER!

AT THAT MOMENT JUST ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE HOTEL...

STOP! ROBBER! THIEF! AGHH...



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

DIAMOND FOLLOWED THE BLOODY TRAIL ANOTHER MILE WHEN HE SPOTTED THE HEADLESS RIDER'S MOUNT NEAR THE CAVE, AND...

COME IN AND GET ME, BLACK DIAMOND!

I CAN'T SEE HIM, BUT HE CAN SEE ME! I'M A PERFECT TARGET! WELL, ROCKY, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO SMOKE YOU OUT!

COME ON OUT, ROCKY!

;COUGH; ;COUGH; I'M COMIN' AND I'LL BE SHOOTIN', DIAMOND! ;COUGH;

DIAMOND JUST REACHED THE LEDGE ABOVE THE CAVE AS ROCKY CAME OUT BLASTING...

YOU MASKED DEVIL! I'LL PUT DAYLIGHT THROUGH YOU!

AT NIGHT? HAH! HERE I AM, ROCKY!



YOU'VE CAUSED A LOT OF TROUBLE, ROCKY—ALMOST MADE THEM HANG YOUR BROTHER, BUT NOW YOU'RE ALL THROUGH!

LIKE BLAZES
I AM! I CAN LICK YOU WITH ONE HAND!

CLICK!
CLICK!

I'LL BUST YOU... UGH!!

LIKE I SAID, ROCKY— YOU'RE ALL THROUGH!



LATER, THAT NIGHT, ROCKY, THE HEADLESS RIDER TOOK HIS LAST RIDE TO BLACKFOOT JAIL! THE FOLLOWING MORNING, HIS WORK FINISHED, BLACK DIAMOND WAS READY TO LEAVE...



IT'D BE MIGHTY HARD TO IMAGINE THE BLACK DIAMOND ON THE PROWL FOR OUTLAWS WITHOUT HIS SIDEKICK, BUMPER, RIDIN' WITH HIM!

The End

Slaughter In Coffeyville

... the Story of the Dalton Gang



Driven by greed and recklessness, and inflamed by a fierce desire to shock the nation, the Dalton brothers set an unequalled record for brutal and daring criminality. Their careers as murderers, bank robbers and train robbers covered a period of less than four years, but it gained them a nationwide reputation. Their path to wealth and glory ended prematurely, however, in a pool of blood on the dusty streets of Coffeyville, Kansas. But . . . let's get back to the beginning.

Robert (Bob) Dalton, the youthful leader of the gang, was born in Missouri in 1867, but his parents moved to Coffeyville soon after. Little is known of Bob's early years, but it is recorded that he became a deputy U. S. Marshal in 1888, under assignment to the Indian Territory. (Incidentally, his brother Frank, the only one of the brothers who did not turn to a life of crime, was serving as a U. S. Marshal when he was killed in the line of duty.) Bob left his job a short time after being deputized, though the reasons are not known. Shortly thereafter, he shot down a rival in a love affair, and became an outlaw.

With two of his brothers, Grattan (Grat) and Emmet, he formed a band of horse-thieves, operating in and around Baxter Springs, Oklahoma. Not satisfied with this small time operation, however, the three brothers went to California in late 1890, and in February of 1891, they robbed a Southern Pacific railroad train at Alila, in

Tulare County. Grat was captured, but escaped when he jumped from the train on which he was being taken to jail.

The gang achieved their first notoriety in May of 1891, when they robbed a train at Wharton, in the Oklahoma Territory. This daring exploit by only three men brought to the authorities the realization that an exceptionally capable bandit leader was in the field, and a relentless pursuit was ordered. One of their accomplices in the Wharton robbery was captured, but the Daltons escaped the law. Temporarily sobered by the vigorous efforts to apprehend them, they decided to lay low for awhile.

A little over a year later, in June of 1892, Bob, Grat, Emmet, and Bill Doolin (later to achieve fame in his own right as an outlaw) robbed a train at Red Rock, Oklahoma Territory. Ignoring the hundreds of law enforcement officers out to get them, they recklessly robbed another train at Adair less than six weeks later. Their exploits were now becoming known throughout the entire West, and their names brought fear and dread throughout the Territory.

Frankly admitting that they were out to overshadow the exploits of the James boys, the Daltons, under the leadership of the 25 year old Bob, next planned the most daring bank robbery ever conceived. As Emmet Dalton wrote later, they wanted to do "something that would make the nation gasp. A piece of high and dangerous effrontery." The job they set for themselves was to pull the first daylight bank robbery, and to make it more difficult, they decided to rob two different banks at the same time. The job was to be han-

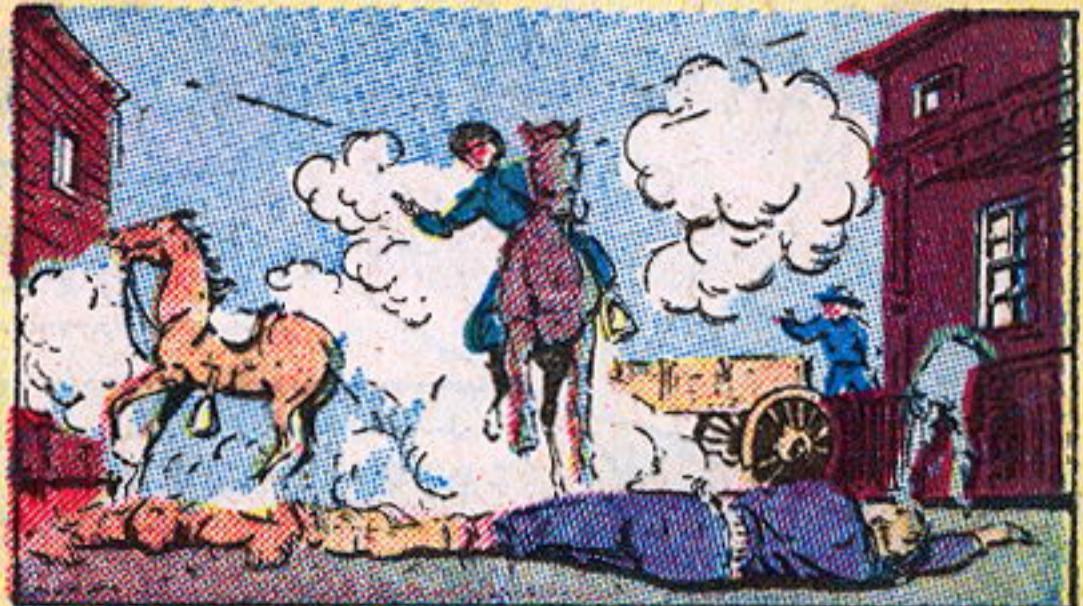


dled by five men — Grat, Bob, Emmet, and two others named Powers and Broadwell. Bob and Emmet were to take the First National Bank of Coffeyville, Kansas, and Grat, Powers and Broadwell were to hold up the Condon Bank.

The night before the robbery, the gang holed up near Onion Creek, a few miles from town. They rode in the morning, timing their entrance so as to arrive just after the banks opened for business. Their first trouble came when they discovered that the main street was being torn up, and the hitching post they had planned to use was temporarily removed. They were forced to tie their horses in a nearby alley, and this later turned out to be about the worse place they could have left them.

Slightly behind schedule, because of the time consumed in finding a place to leave their horses, the five men walked down the alley and onto the main street, carrying their rifles. The first bank they came to was the Condon bank, and Grat, Powers and Broadwell broke off, and entered. Bob and Emmet continued on down the street toward their objective. At first, everything went according to schedule, but a fearless cashier in the Condon bank presented the next obstacle. Coolly lying to the desperate and armed outlaws, the cashier, Charley Ball, told them that the bank safe worked on a time lock, and could not be opened until 9:45, a delay of about five minutes. The outlaws could have checked the safe and discovered the lie, but for some reason they chose to believe him, thus delaying their escape. While they were waiting, they were spotted by several of the local citizens (having lived there for a number of years, the Daltons were well known in Coffeyville) and the word of their robbery was quickly spread. The townspeople went for their guns, and rapidly gathered outside the bank, preparing to give the desperadoes the fight of their lives. The first sign of trouble came when a fusillade of shots burst through the front windows of the Condon Bank, and the three men dropped to the floor to protect themselves. (Later, more than eighty bullets were found in the Condon Bank.)

Meanwhile, Bob and Emmet's plans had gone on smoothly, and they had returned to their horses, carrying the money. They quickly discovered that their comrades were missing, and despite the fact that they could hear the shots and knew that a gunfight was in progress, they returned to the Condon Bank to help. As this was going on, the other men had abandoned their hopes of getting all the money, and had escaped through the rear of the bank. As they all returned to their horses, and prepared to escape, the dam broke.



While the shooting had been sporadic and scattered before, it suddenly became organized, under the brave leadership of several of the townspeople, and a crescendo of fire bellowed down in thunderous crashes upon the five men. The din was terrific. Some of their horses broke and ran down the narrow alley, and the desperadoes found themselves trapped. At one side of the alley was the Isham Brothers Hardware Store, and a veritable fusillade of fire rocketed out of the little shop. Grat fell dead, and Powers was riddled with bullets. The next to fall was Bob, who collapsed against the wall of the dusty alley. Thinking that the others were following, Emmet and Broadwell dragged themselves onto some horses, and though severely wounded, made their escape from town.

Whatever could be said of these ruthless killers, however, they could not be accused of disloyalty. As soon as Emmet Dalton realized that Bob had not escaped, he turned his horse, and rode back through the hail of lead and powdersmoke to Bob's side. He found him, lying in a crumpled heap where he had fallen. Dying, but not yet dead, and choking with blood, Bob told Emmet to never surrender, fired a wild shot into the air, and died. Dazed with shock, and weak from the effect of his many wounds, Emmet fell unconscious near the dead form of his brother. Broadwell was not destined to escape either, and he died of wounds on the empty prairie.

Four of the townspeople had been killed, and three wounded, but the Dalton gang was finished forever. Emmet, though severely wounded, was later tried and convicted, and served a long prison term. The Daltons had wanted fame and excitement, and it must be admitted that they were bold, courageous, reckless and daring, but their exploits brought them little wealth and an early grave. They had succeeded in becoming famous, and had terrorized the West for a few short years, but death was their final reward.

THE END

**the SECRET of
TREASURE CAVE-**

How Gray Shadow Tracked
Down the Mystery of
Spike's Sudden Wealth

GIVEN!

WE GIVE YOU **CASH** OR **PREMIUMS!**

BOYS! GIRLS!
LADIES!
MEN!



I'LL BUY 2 BOXES OF WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE, SPIKE!
IT'S WONDERFUL... AND THESE ART PICTURES YOU GIVE ARE LOVELY!

UGH! PALE SQUAW GIVE-UM WAMPUM!

THANKS, MRS. JONES! THAT MAKES 10 BOXES I'VE SOLD THIS MORNING. IT'S EASY!

ACT NOW!

WE TRUST YOU!

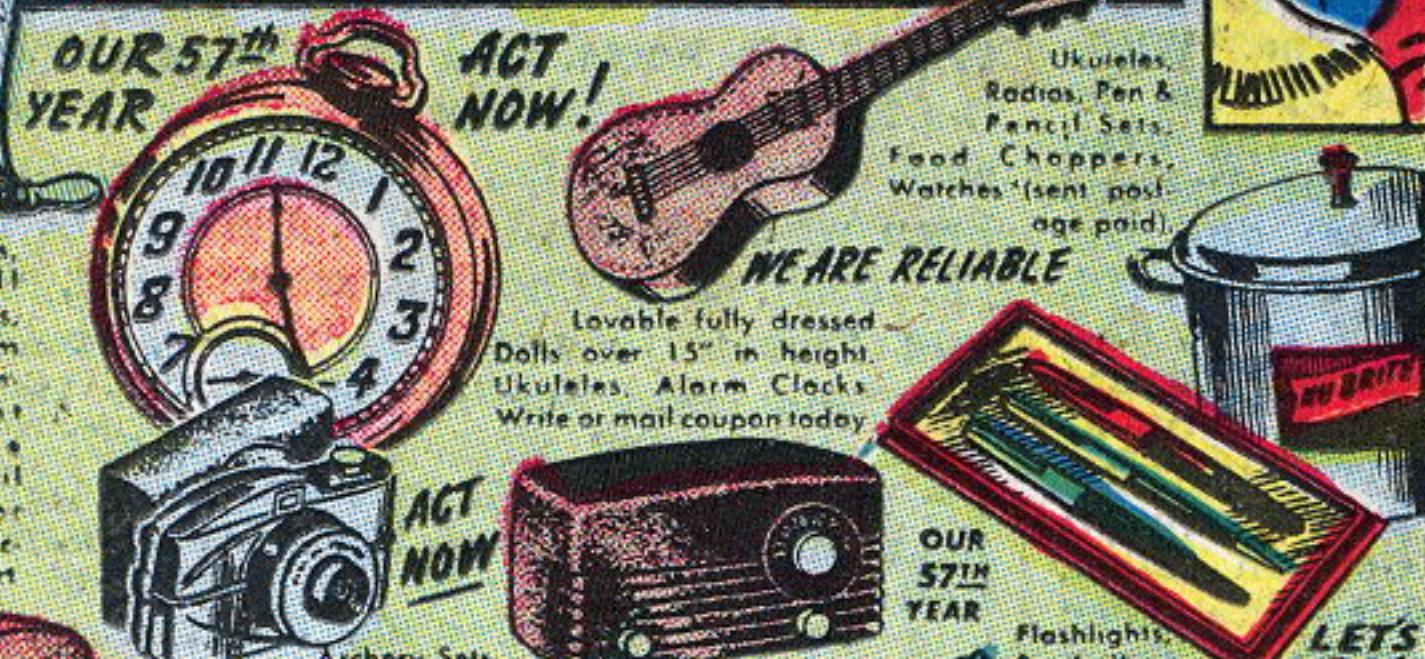
22 Cal. Rifles
1000 Shot
Bells, Air
Rifles (sent
postage
paid). Boys
girls Bicycles
(Express
charges col-
lect). Write or
mail coupon
to start.



LOOK! A REAL WATCH TOO!

I CONFESS, KIDS. I GOT ALL THESE PREMIUMS JUST FOR SELLING WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE... NEXT WEEK I'M GETTING A CAMERA. IT'S A CINCH!

BOY! I'M SENDING IN THAT COUPON RIGHT AWAY!



MAIL COUPON!

**YOU GET
BIG
CATALOG**

Candid Cameras with carrying case, Telescopes, Watches (sent postage paid) SIMPLY GIVE pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold to friends, neighbors, relatives at 25¢ a box (with picture).

Alarm Clocks, Pen and Pencil Sets, Bibles, Billfolds, Telescopes; Roller Skates, Blankets, Aluminum Ware, Record Players, Movie Machines (sent postage paid).

Rush coupon to start!



ACT NOW!



Packet Watches, Carving Sets, Corn Poppers. Write or mail coupon to start. We trust you.

BE FIRST!



OUR 57th YEAR - WE ARE RELIABLE!



MAIL NOW!

Wilson Chem. Co. Dept. CH-53, Tyrone, Pa. Date... Gentlemen: Please send me on trial 14 colorful art pictures with 14 boxes of White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE to sell at 25¢ a box (with picture). I will remit amount asked within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash Commission as explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with order, postage paid to start.

NAME _____ AGE _____

ST. _____ R. R. _____ BOX _____

TOWN _____ TONE NO. _____ STATE _____

PRINT LAST NAME HERE _____

Print coupon on postal card or mail in envelope today

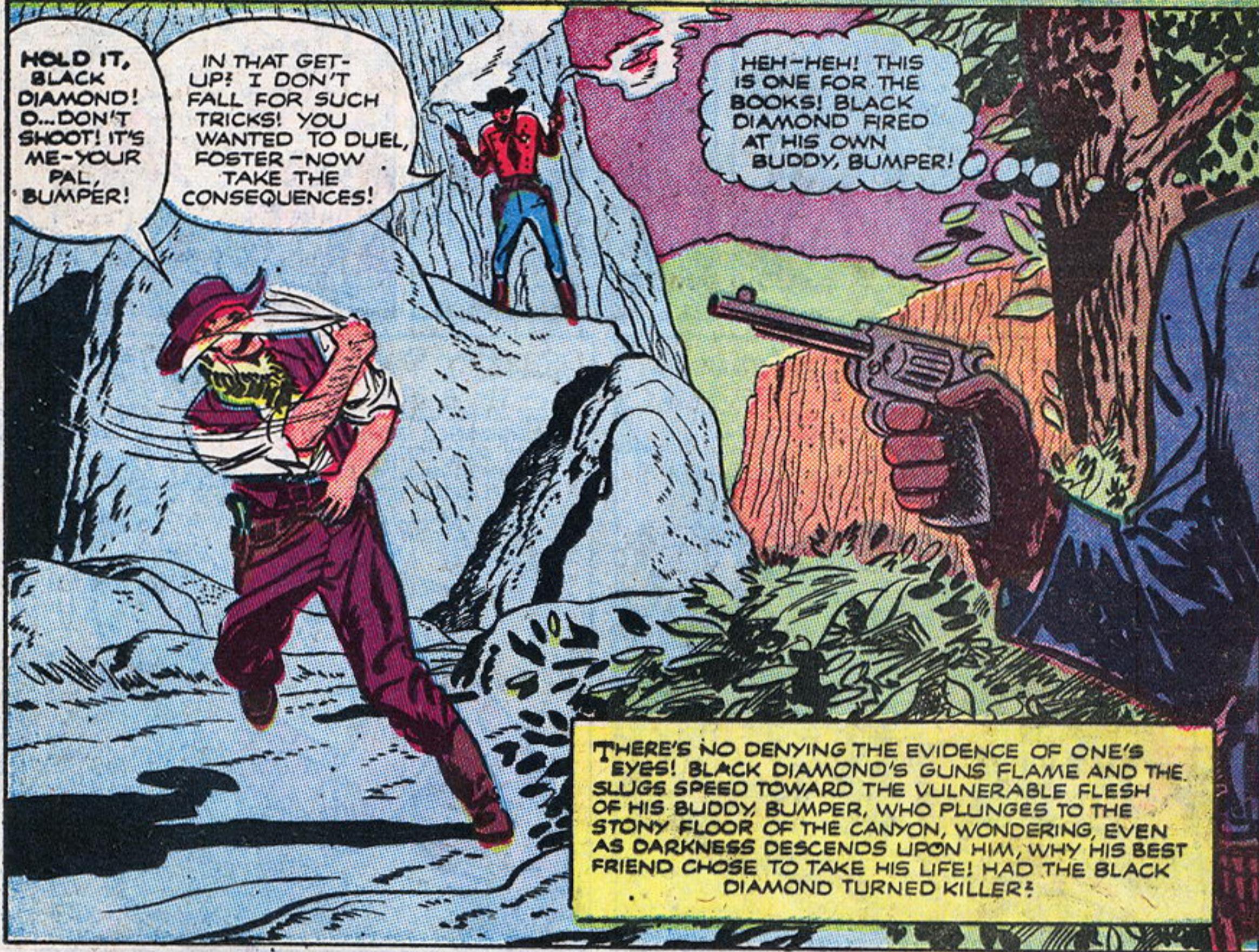
BLACK DIAMOND

IN "THE SINISTER SAGA OF THE RATTLESNAKE PIT"

HOLD IT, BLACK DIAMOND! D... DON'T SHOOT! IT'S ME-YOUR PAL, BUMPER!

IN THAT GET-UP? I DON'T FALL FOR SUCH TRICKS! YOU WANTED TO DUEL, FOSTER - NOW TAKE THE CONSEQUENCES!

HEH-HEH! THIS IS ONE FOR THE BOOKS! BLACK DIAMOND FIRED AT HIS OWN BUDDY, BUMPER!



THERE CAN BE NO IMMEDIATE ANSWER TO SUCH A QUESTION - FOR EVERY TRAGEDY HAS ITS BEGINNING! AND THIS TRAGEDY BEGAN WHEN CHICK HAGSTROM BEGAN TO GET DRUNK, AS USUAL, AT THE EL DORADO SALOON... BILL PAYNE, A CATTLE-MAN WHO HAD RECENTLY SOLD HIM SOME CATTLE, WAS STANDING NEARBY...

THAT THIEF, PAYNE! HE DESERVED HANGIN'! HE KNEW THE CATTLE HE SOLD ME WAS SICK!

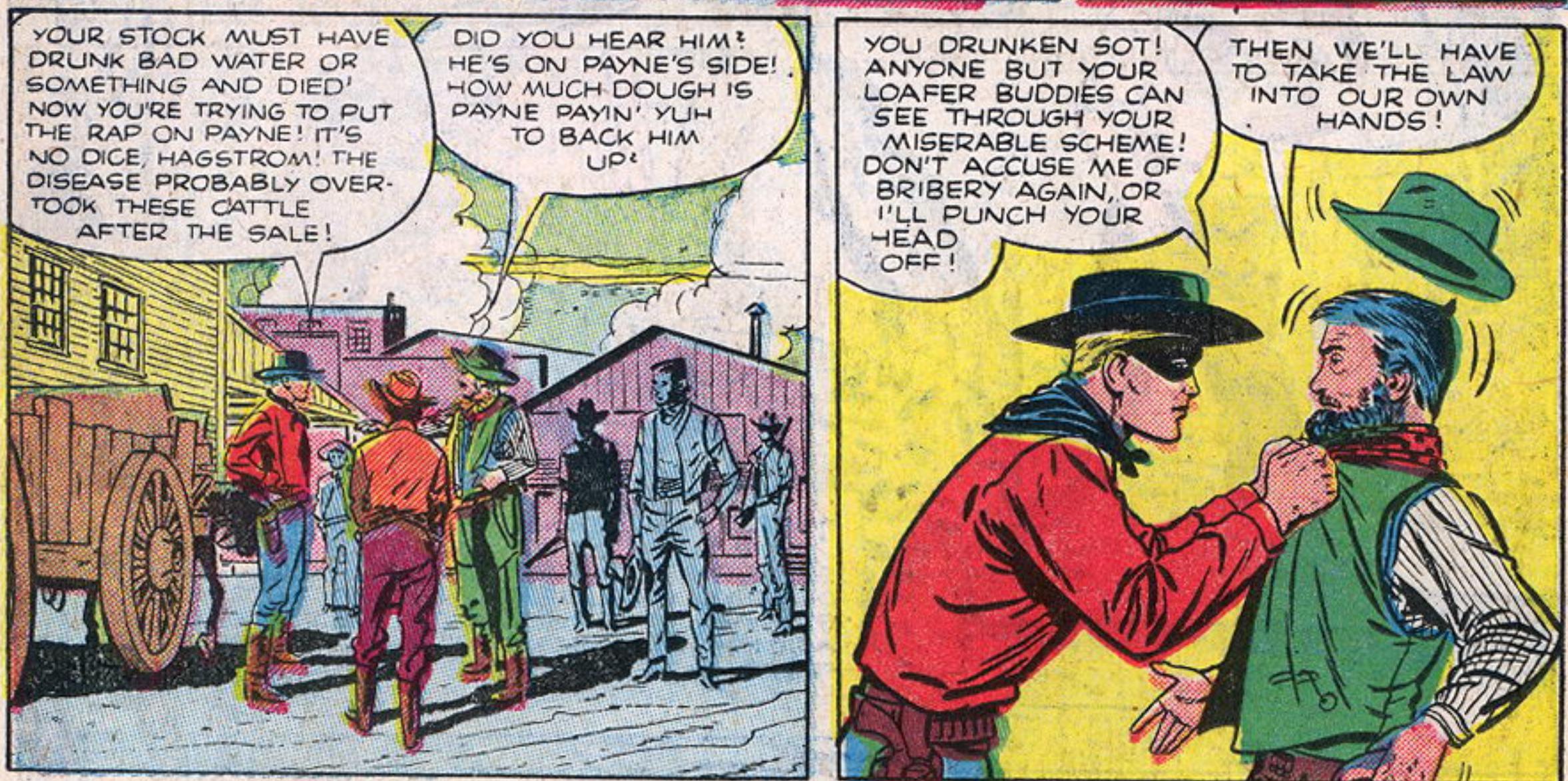
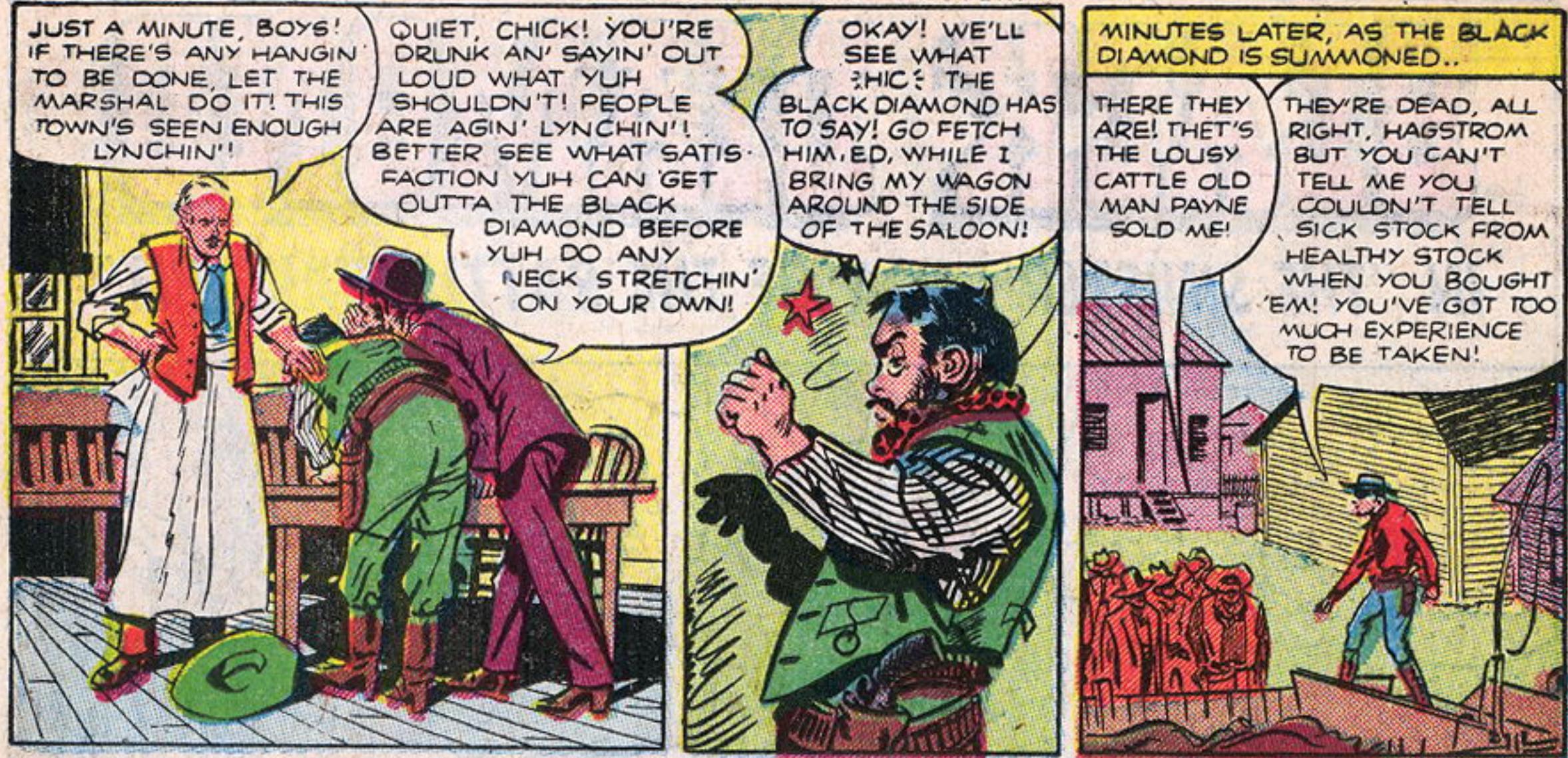
SHORE, HE DID, CHICK! PAYNE TOOK YA FOR A SUCKER! YUH TRUSTED HIM, AN' WHAT DID HE DO? STUCK YUH WITH HIS DISEASED STOCK!

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GOIN' TO STAND FOR IT, HAGSTROM! YUH AIN'T GOIN' TO LET OLD MAN PAYNE MAKE A FOOL OUTTA YUH!

NO! I WANT JUSTICE! I WANT MY DOUGH BACK! I WANT PAYNE HANGED! WHO'S GOIN' TO HELP ME STRING HIM UP?

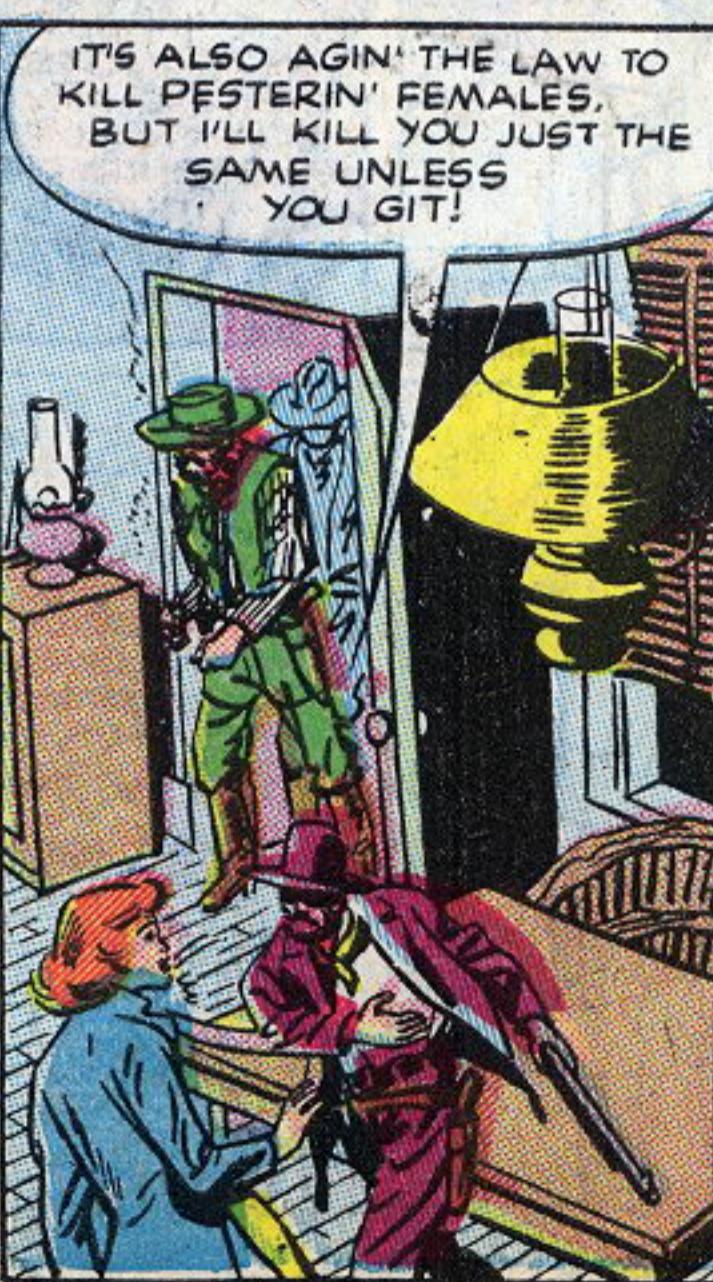
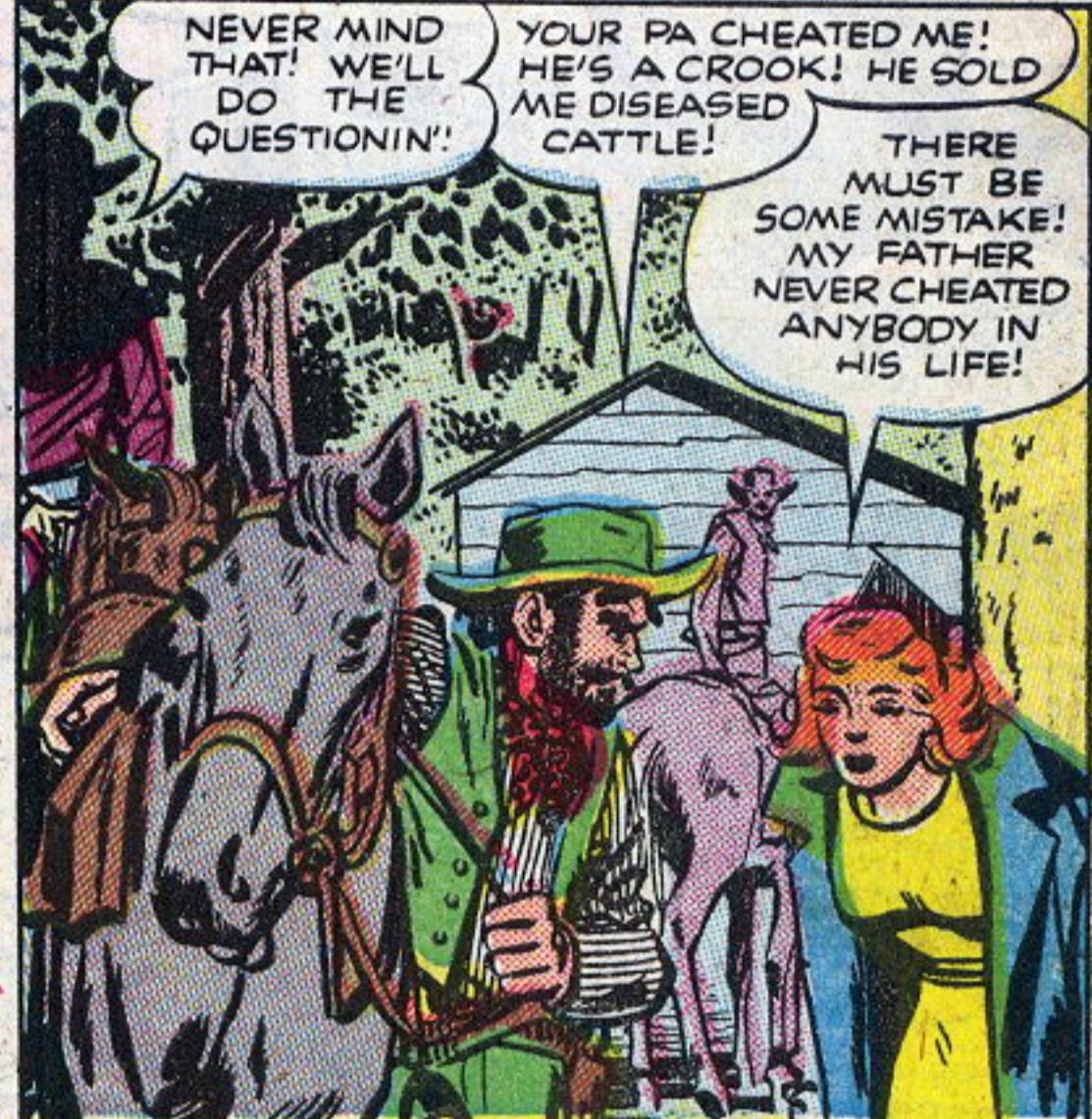
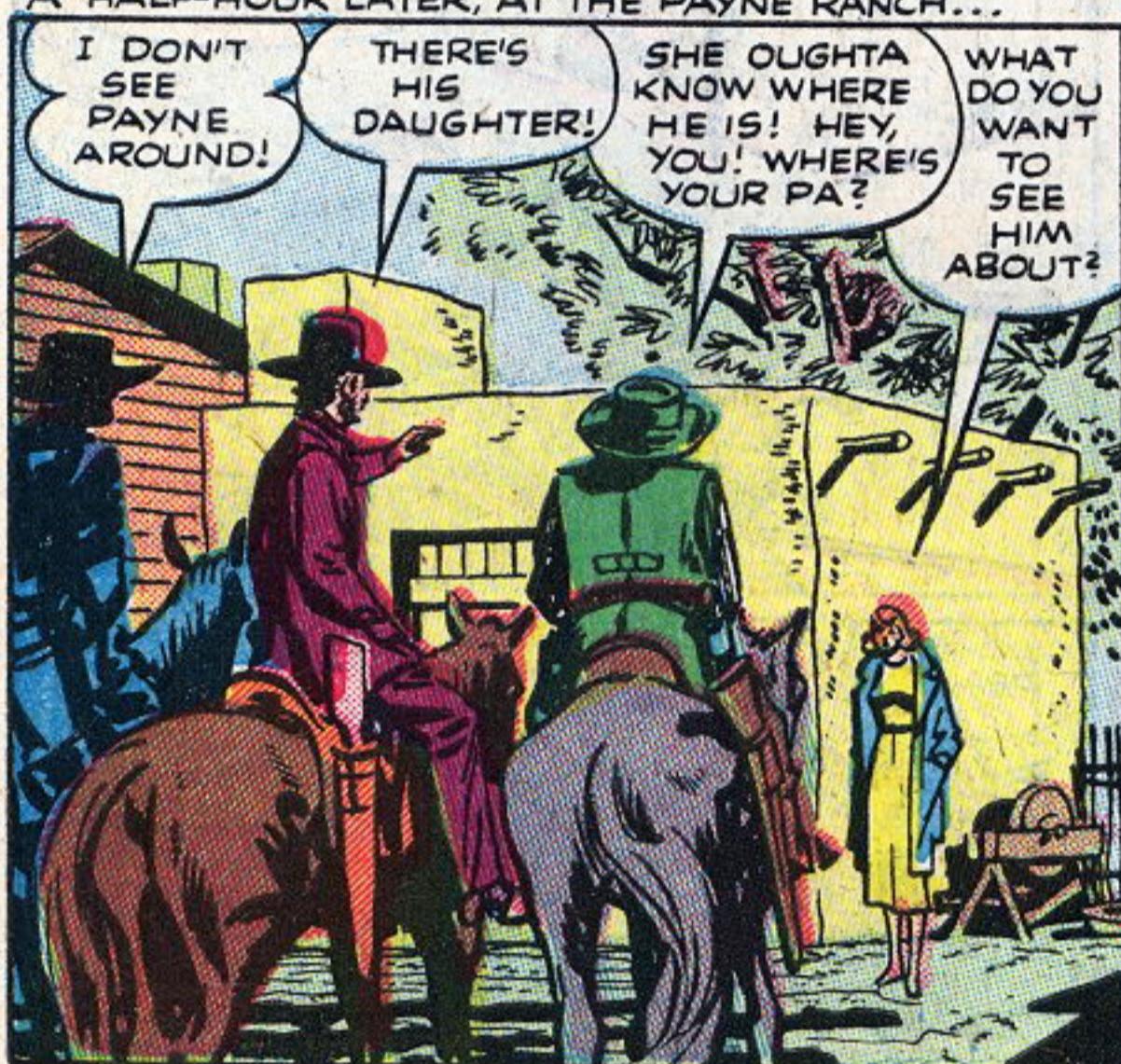


BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN





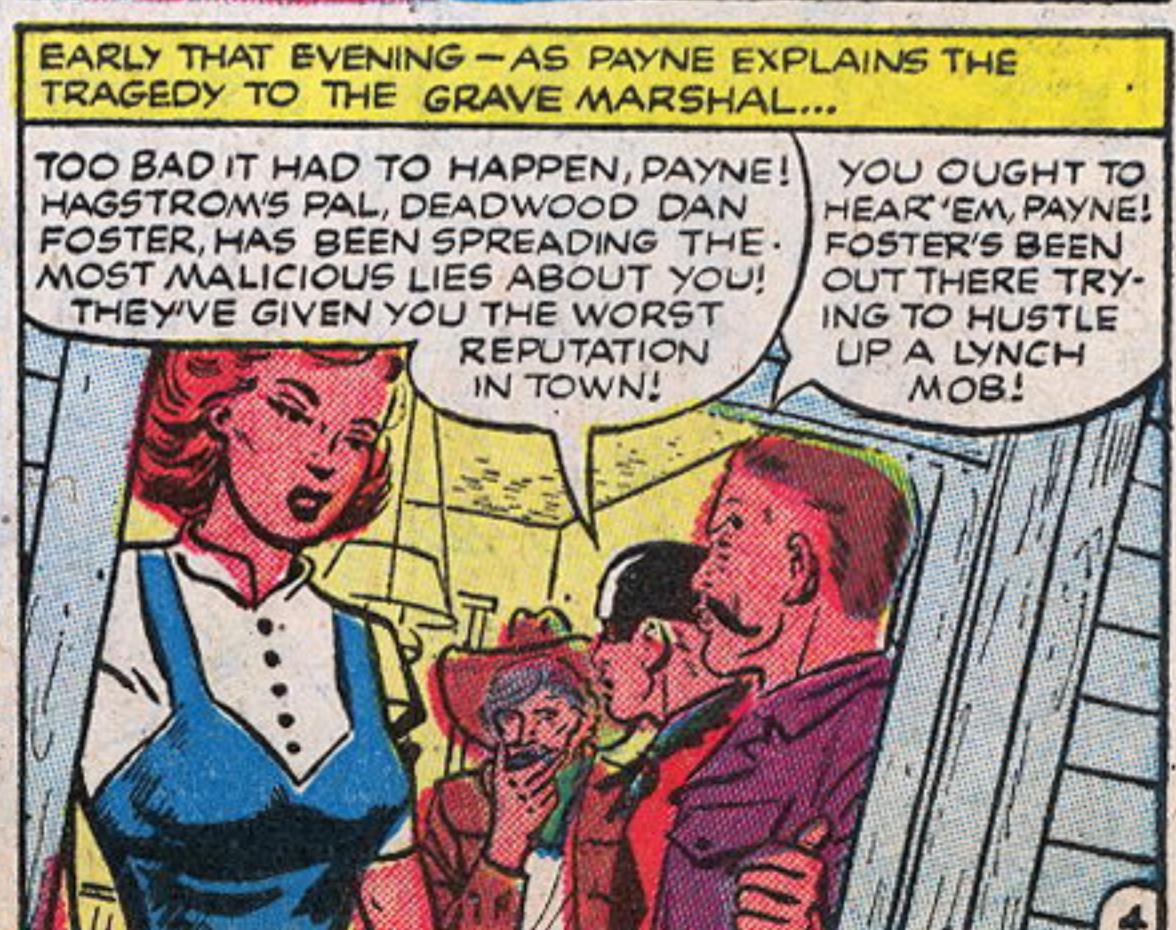
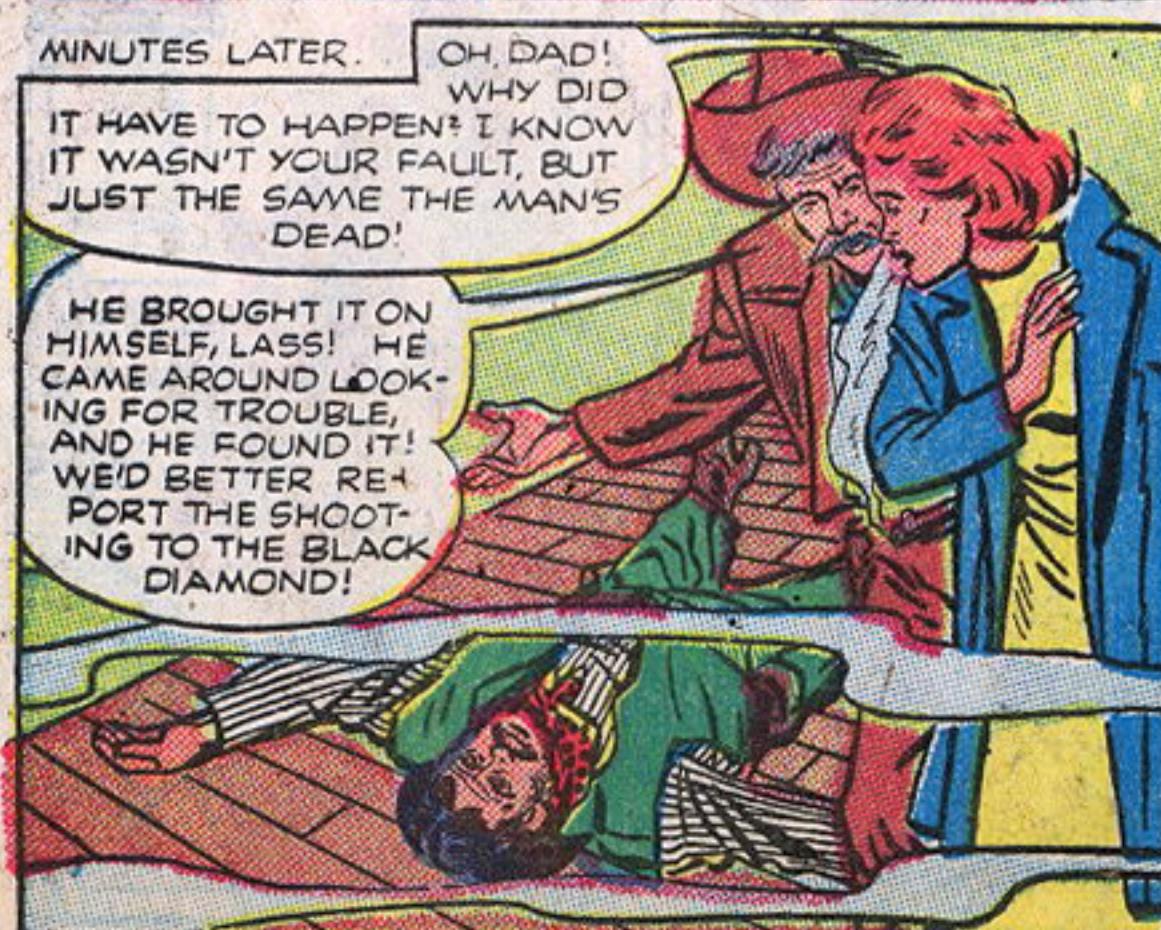
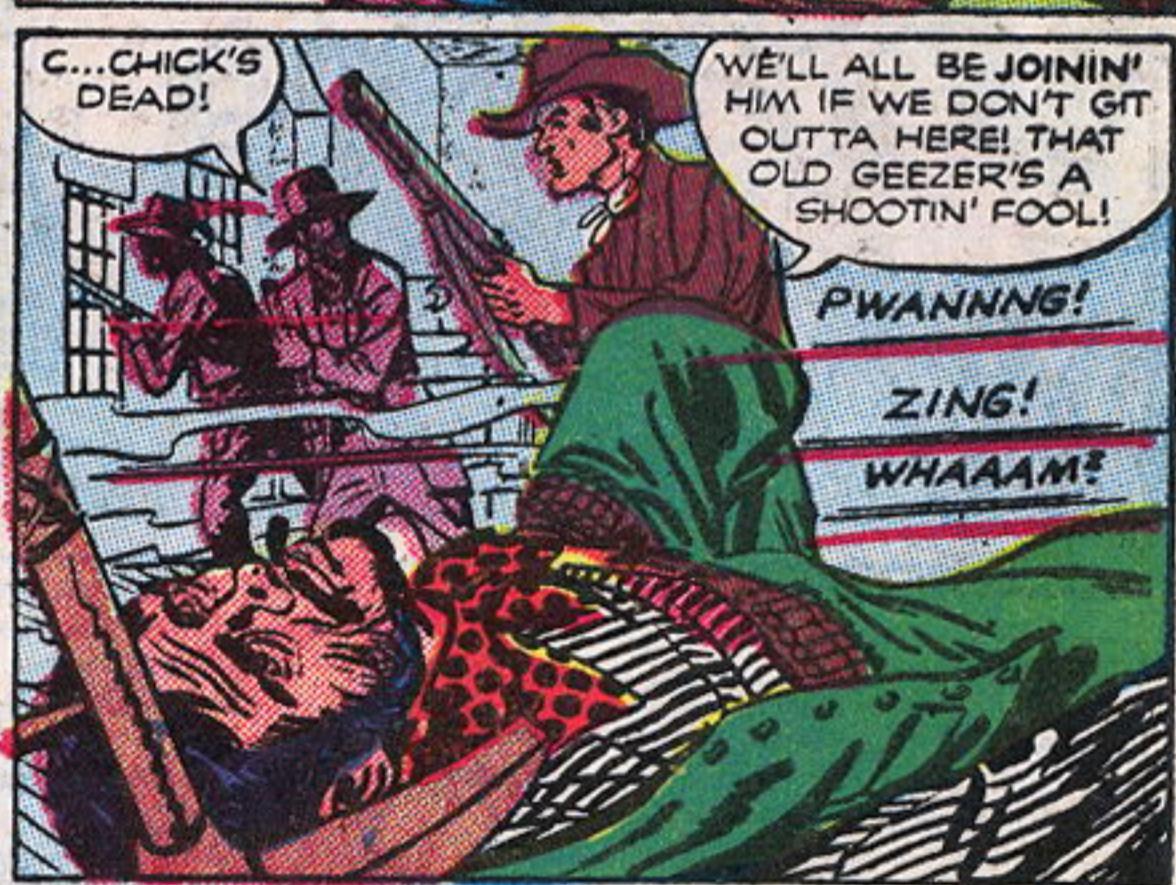
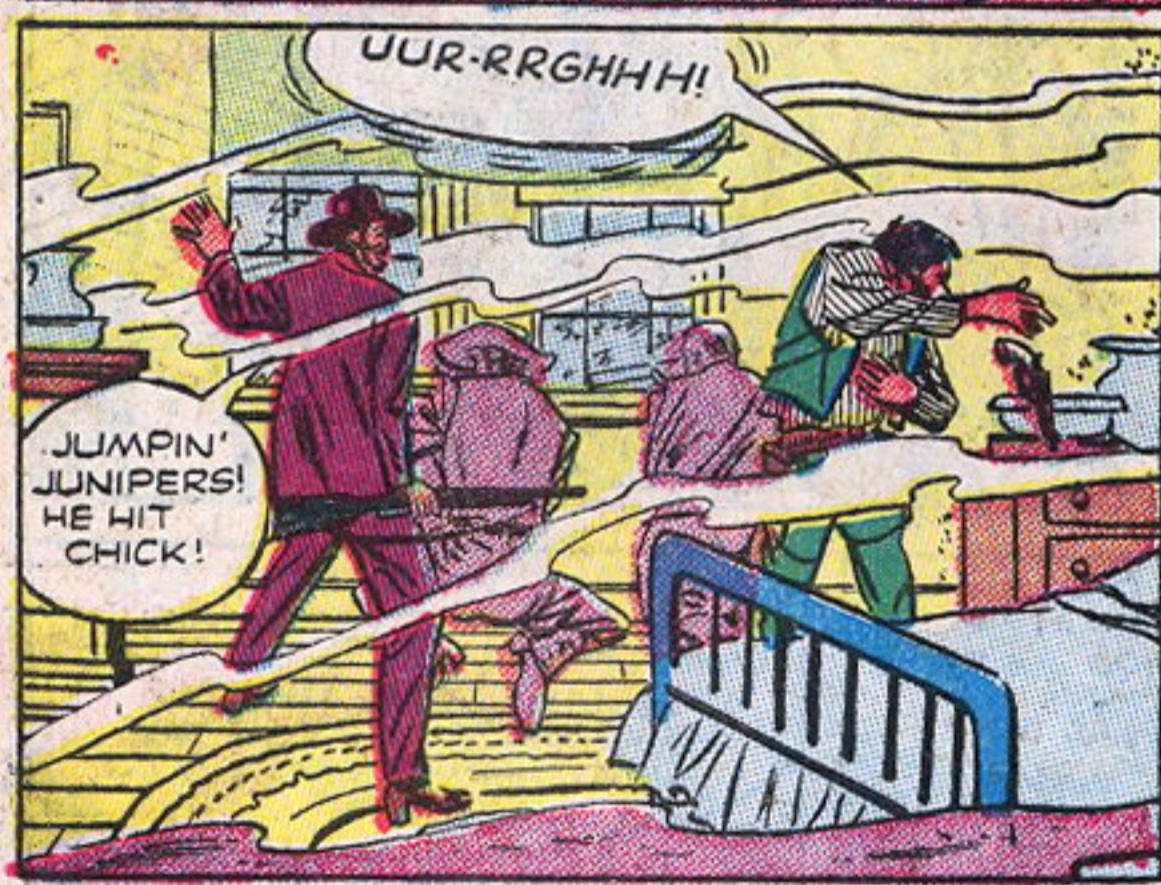
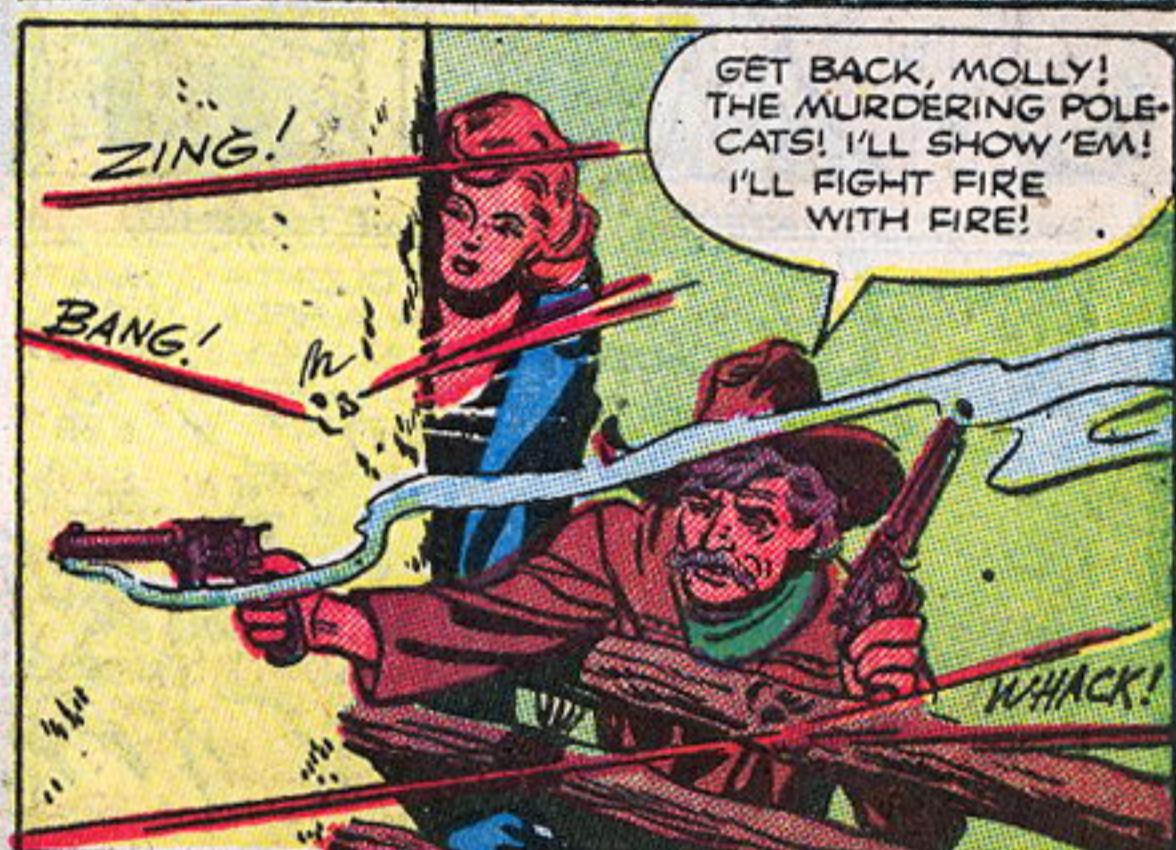
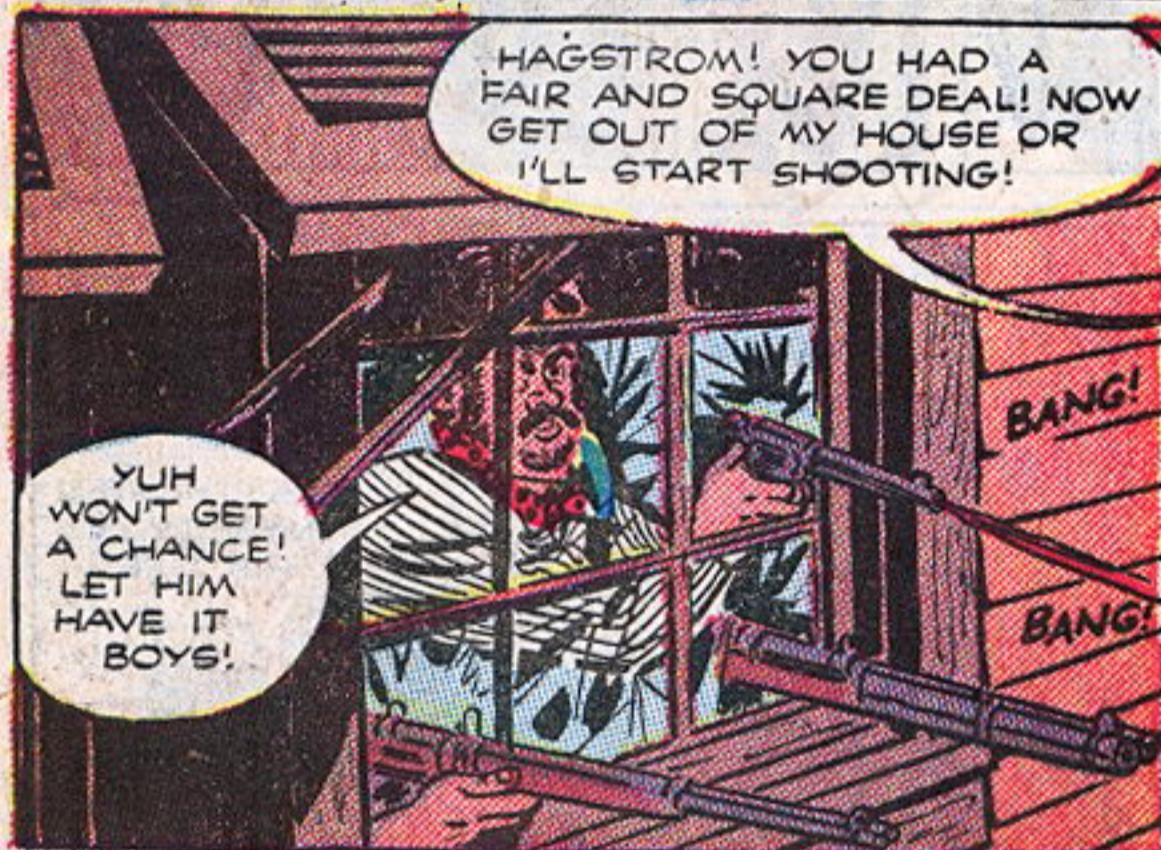
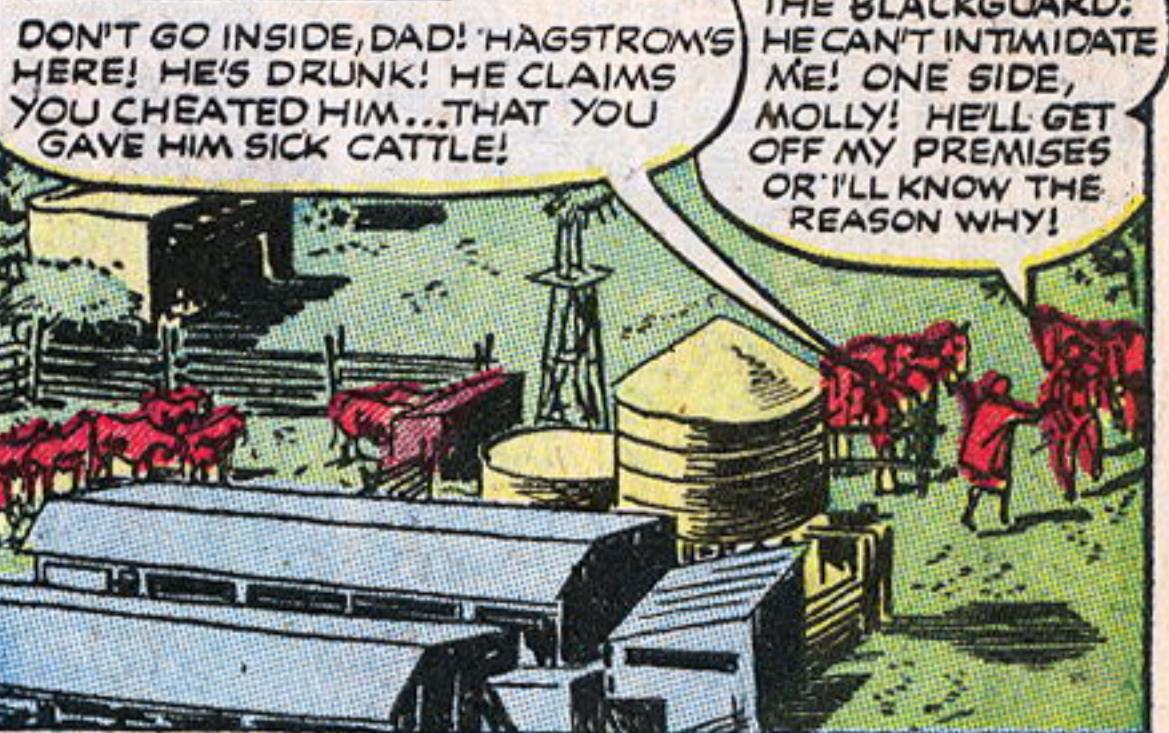
A HALF-HOUR LATER, AT THE PAYNE RANCH...



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN



TEN MINUTES LATER, AS PAYNE RIDES UP-AND NOTICES THE STRANGE MOUNTS TIED TO HIS HITCHING POST...



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

YOU TELL 'EM, DAN! TELL 'EM HOW HAGSTROM WENT TO PAYNE TO GIT JUSTICE BUT GOT A BULLET INSTEAD OF SATISFACTION FOR TH' SICK CATTLE PAYNE SLIPPED HIM!

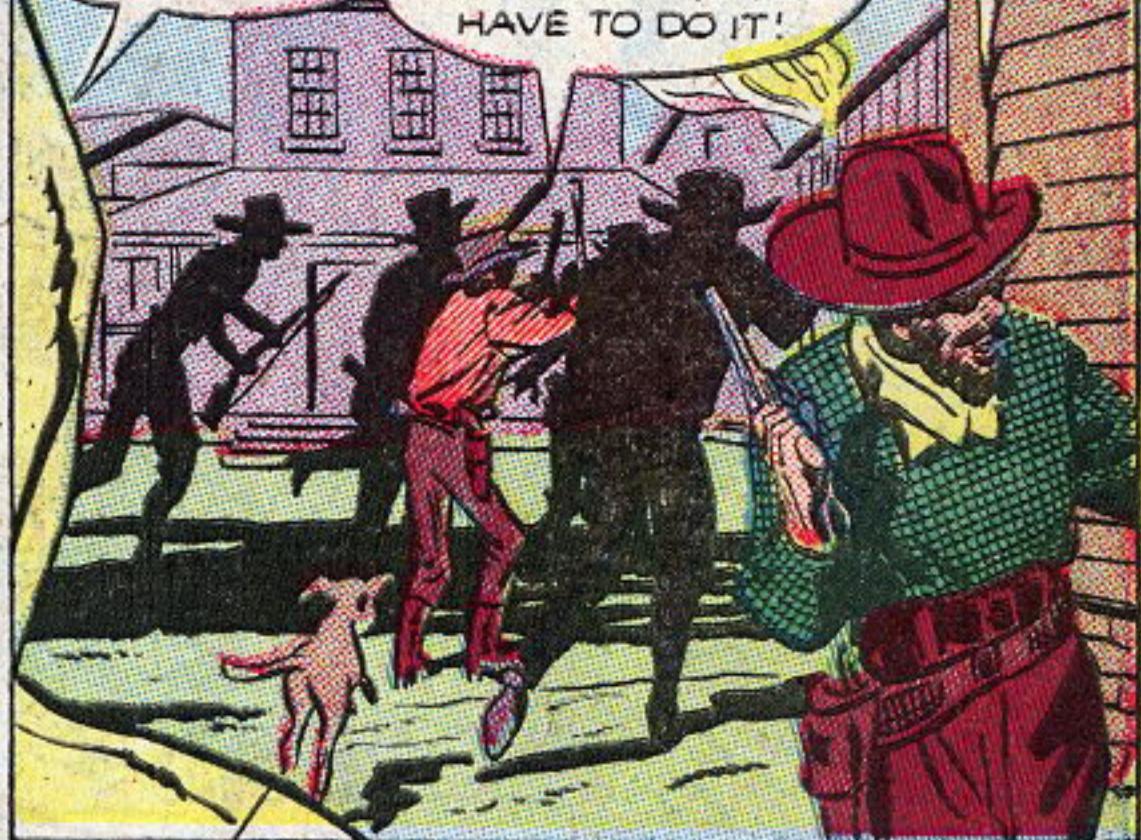
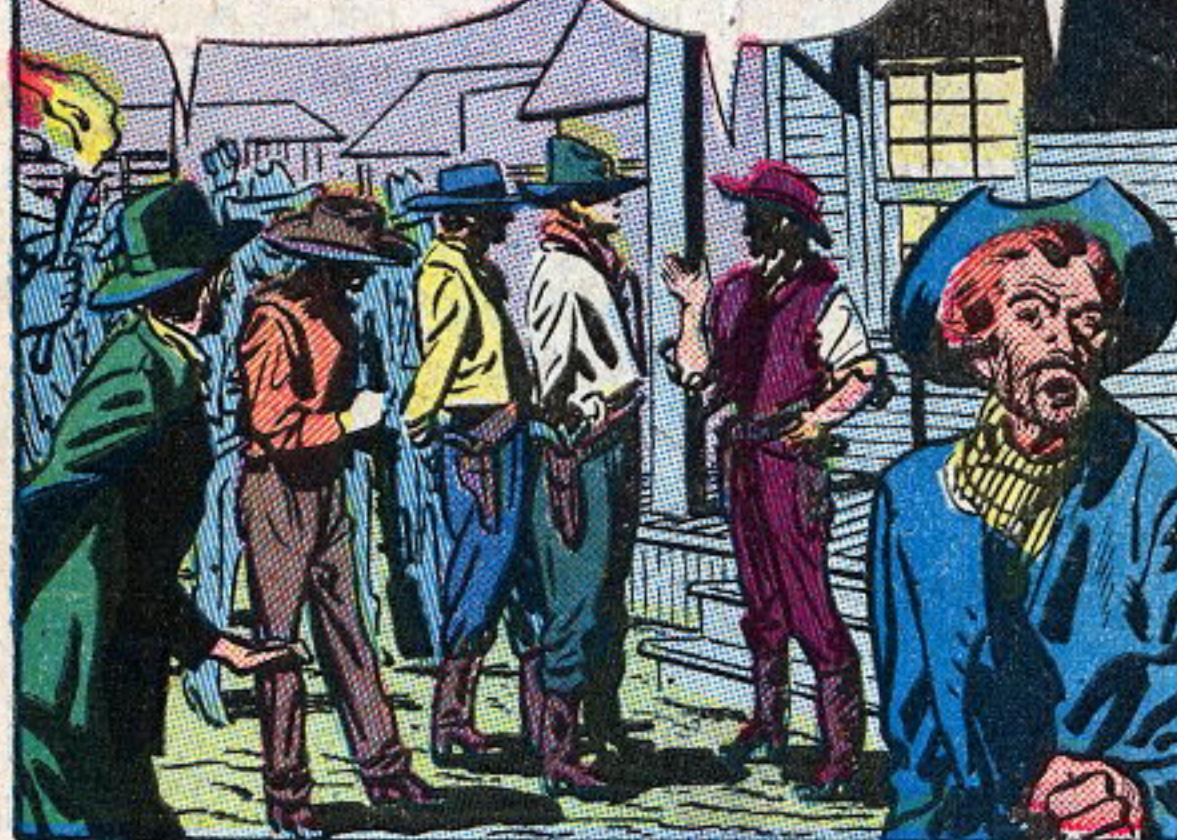
THEY HEARD THE STORY! ARE WE GOING TO TAKE THIS MURDER LYIN' DOWN?

NO, NO! LET'S GIT PAYNE! HE'S IN TOWN NOW!

HE'S AT THE MARSHAL'S OFFICE, FIXING THINGS UP WITH THE BLACK DIAMOND TO ESCAPE PUNISHMENT!

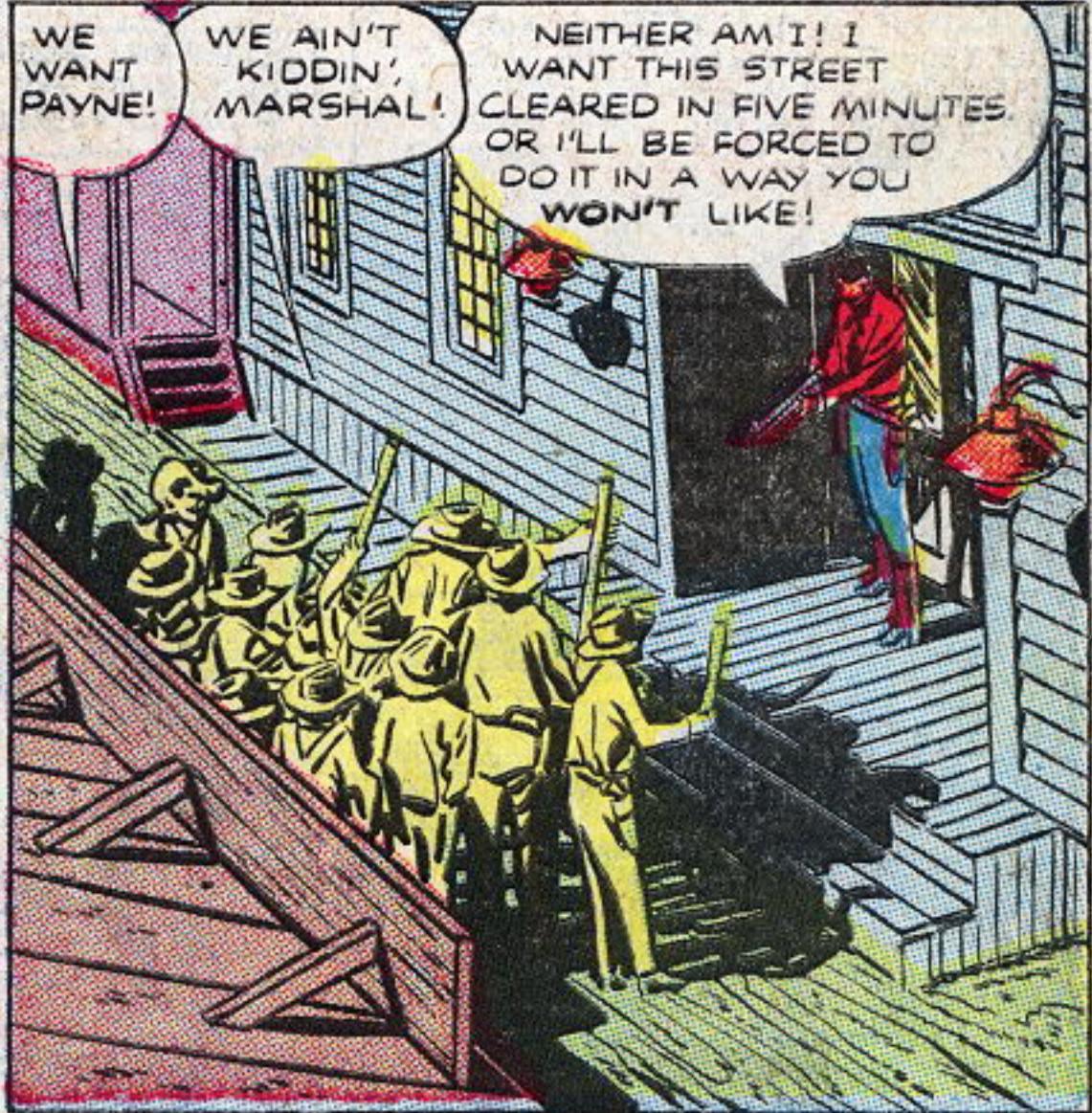
THE BLACK DIAMOND IS ON PAYNE'S PAYROLL! WE'LL NEVER GET HIM TO HANG PAYNE! IF THERE'S ANY HANGIN' TO BE DONE, WE HAVE TO DO IT!

WELL, WHAT'RE WE WAITIN' FOR?



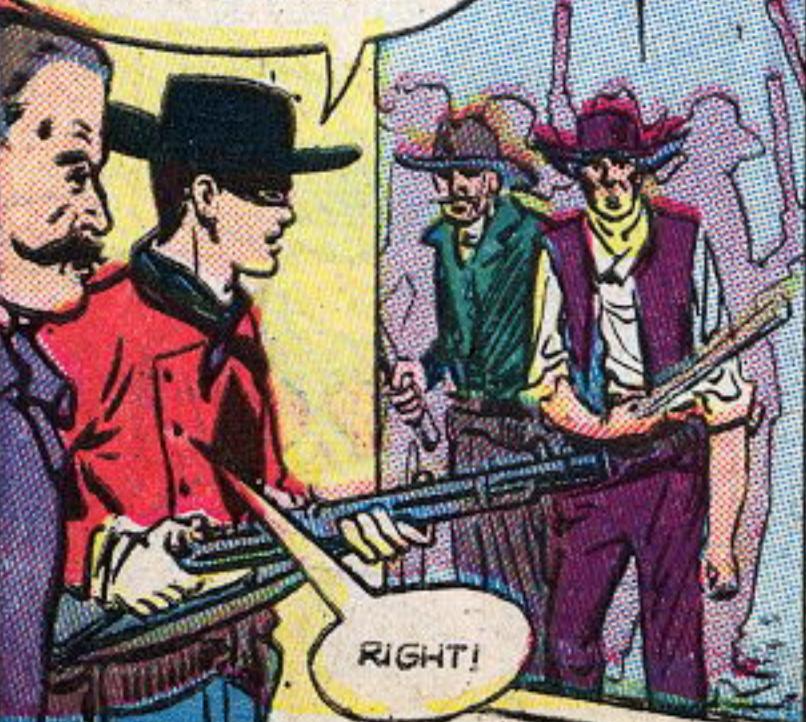
THOSE COYOTES SURE WORKED UP THIS CROWD! YOU'RE NOT SAFE HERE, PAYNE! BUMPER... LOCK PAYNE IN THE JAILHOUSE WHILE I CALM THIS MOB!

NO! I WON'T BE LOCKED UP! LET ME TAKE ON THIS MOB!



THERE! DIDN'T I TELL YOU PAYNE PAID THE MARSHAL OFF? A MAN COMMITS MURDER AN' THE MARSHAL PROTECTS HIM!

ONE MORE CRACK LIKE THAT, FOSTER, AND I'LL ARREST YOU FOR LIBEL! COME ON, BUMPER, DISPERSE THIS MOB!



GET ALONG, NOW! BREAK IT UP! NO CONGREGATING IN THE STREETS!

PSST, DEADWOOD! WE CAN GIT PAYNE OUT BY SNEAKIN' AROUND THE BACK WAY! WE CAN BUST HIM OUTTA HIS CELL!



GOOD IDEA! GIT A COUPLE HOSSES - BUT DON'T LET THE BLACK DIAMOND SEE YA!

SHORTLY AFTER...

OKAY! NOW WHACK THEM NAGS!



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

OKAY, PAYNE—MAKE UP YORE MIND! DO YUH COME WITH US OR DO WE PLUG YUH RIGHT HERE?

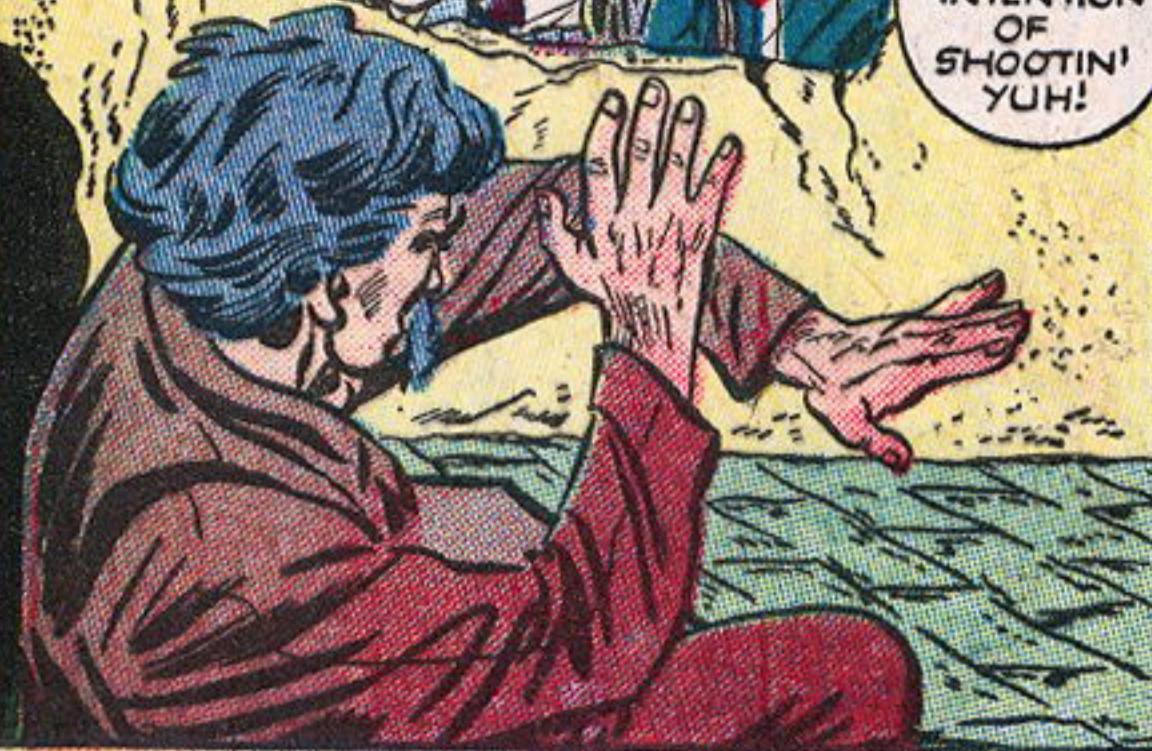
I.. I'LL COME
DON'T SHOOT
ME...
PLEASE...

WE
AIN'T
GOT THE
SLIGHTEST
INTENTION
OF
SHOOTIN'
YUH!

HEY, LOOK! THERE GOES DEADWOOD DAN! HE'S GOT OLD MAN PAYNE!

THEY BROKE
INTO THE JAIL
FROM THE REAR!

SADDLE UP, BUMPER!
QUICK! THERE ISN'T A
SECOND TO LOSE!



WHAT'RE
YOU TYING
MY HANDS
FOR? GASP!
FOSTER! NO!
YOU AREN'T
THINKING OF...

THE HECK, I AIN'T!
WHAT D'YUH THINK
WE SNATCHED YUH
FOR? WE'RE TAKIN'
THE LAW INTO OUR
HANDS! OKAY, BOYS
STRING HIM
UP!

SHORTLY AFTER...
WE'RE TOO LATE,
BUMPER! POOR PAYNE! HE WAS
INNOCENT! HE KILLED HAGSTROM
PURELY IN SELF DEFENSE!

THERE'S ONLY ONE LAW
FOSTER'S BUNCH
RESPECTS! FORCE!
LET'S GET A POSSE,
DIAMOND! AND TRAIL
THOSE COYOTES
TO THEIR GRAVES!

HOURS LATER, THE SAME NIGHT IN AN
IMPREGNABLE, BASIN-LIKE FORTRESS
KNOWN AS THE RATTLESNAKE PIT...

DAN! FORGIT
THE RABBITS!
LOOK WHAT'S
HEADED THIS
WAY!

IT'S A POSSE, DAN!
THEY'RE COMIN' FER
US! I TOLD YUH
WE'D NEVER GIT
AWAY WITH IT!



SHUP
UP, YUH,
GREASE
TAIL!

HMM... IT'S BLACK DIAMOND,
ALL RIGHT, BUT THERE
AIN'T A THING HE CAN
DO TO US! THIS IS AN
OLD INJUN HIDEOUT!
WE CAN STAY HERE
TILL THE COWS
COME HOME!

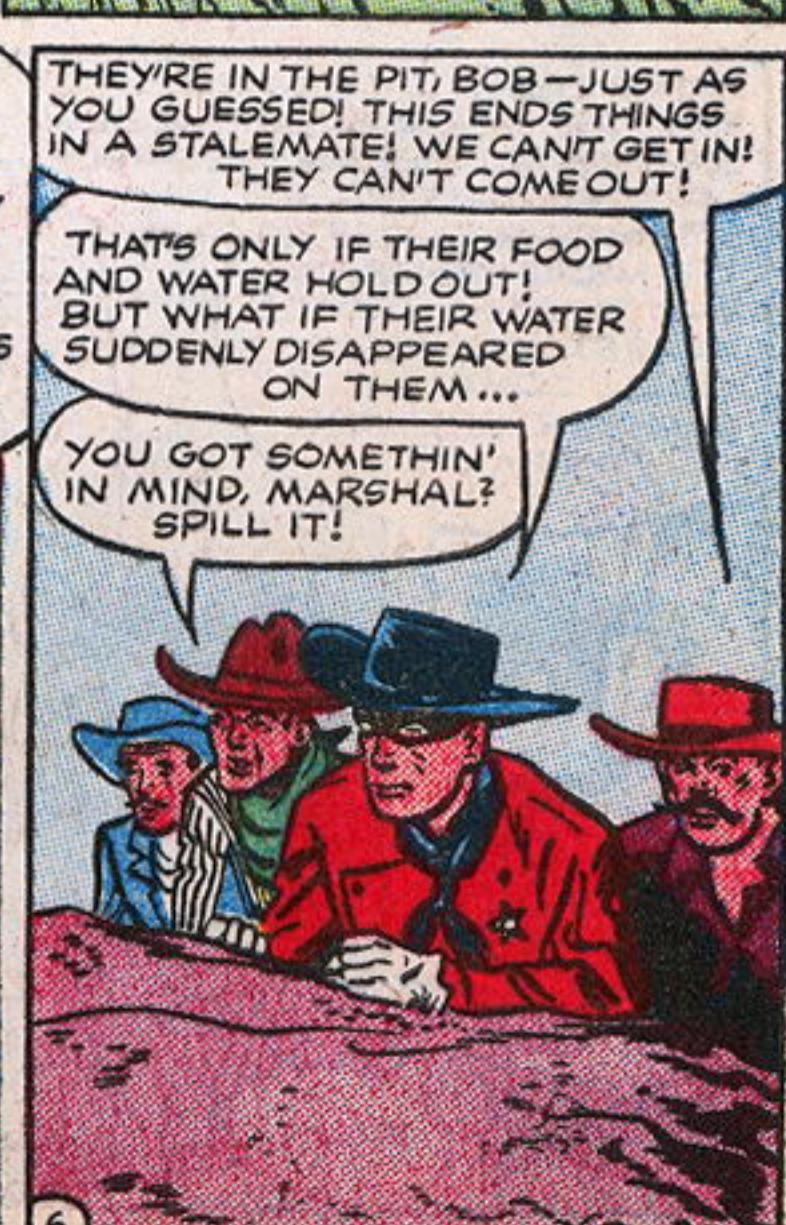
WE GOT A WATER
HOLE, AN' MORE RABBITS
THAN WE CAN EAT!
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY
INTO THE PIT... AN' NO-
BODY CAN GIT THROUGH
THAT PASS ALIVE! SAME
GOES FOR ANYBODY
TRYING TO COME OVER
THE BASIN RIM!

YEAH, I
KNOW!
BUT THE
MARSHAL
GOT A WAY
OF COMIN'
OUT ON
TOP! I
WISH I WAS
1,000 MILES
FROM HERE!

THEY'RE IN THE PIT, BOB—JUST AS
YOU GUessed! THIS ENDS THINGS
IN A STALEMATE! WE CAN'T GET IN!
THEY CAN'T COME OUT!

THAT'S ONLY IF THEIR FOOD
AND WATER HOLD OUT!
BUT WHAT IF THEIR WATER
SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED
ON THEM...

YOU GOT SOMETHIN'
IN MIND, MARSHAL?
SPILL IT!



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

HOURS LATER, AS THE SUN CAME UP...

HAVING DRAWN A DETAILED DIAGRAM ON THE GROUND, THE BLACK DIAMOND EXPLAINS HIS SCHEME...

IF WE WORK ALL NIGHT, BY MORNING WE'LL HAVE TUNNELED UNDER THE WATER HOLE! THEY'LL BLOW SKY-HIGH WITHOUT WATER!

IT'S A SWELL IDEA! YOU HOMBRES START DRILLING! I'LL GO TO TOWN TO GET THE DYNAMITE!

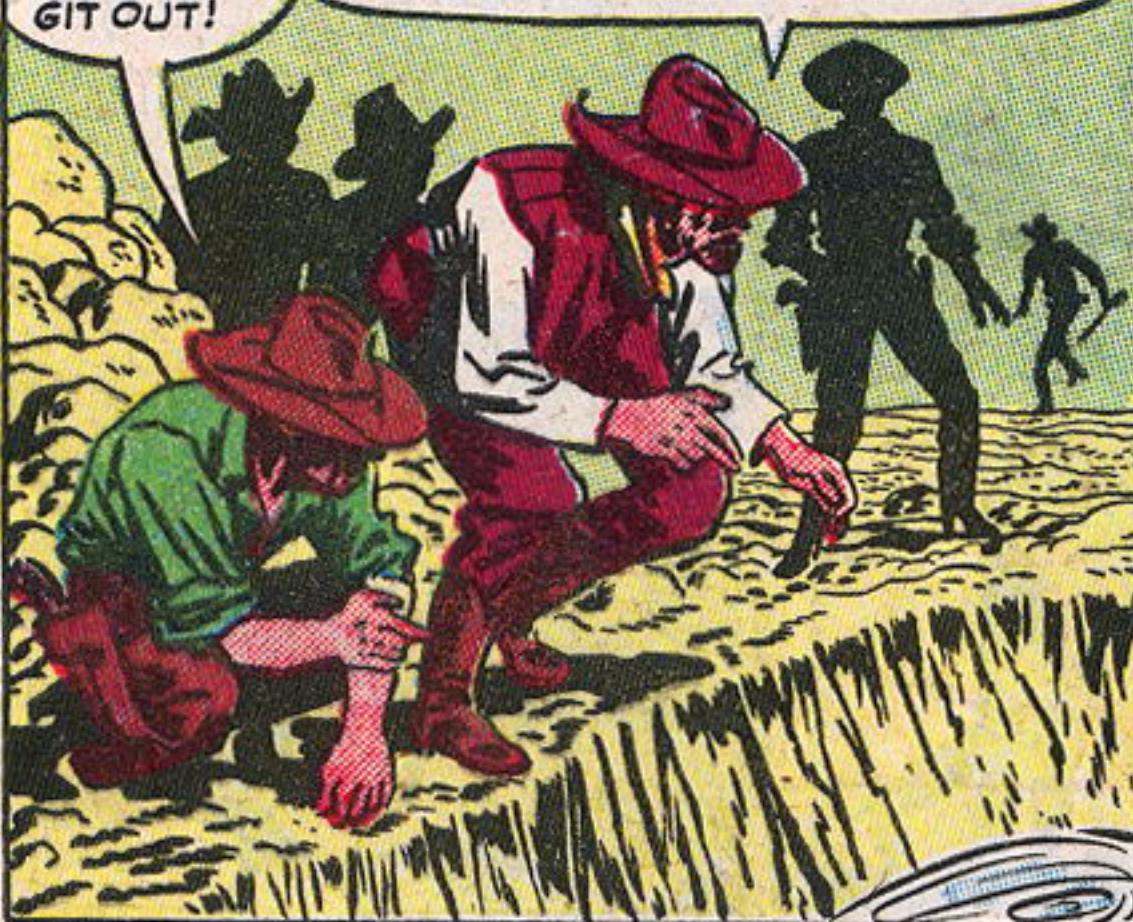


OKAY, WE'RE SET TO BLOW! I PITY THE ONE WHO'S LEANING OVER FOR A DRINK OF WATER!



THE WATER'S BEEN DRAINED OUT! WE'LL DIE OF THIRST! NOW WE GOTTA GIT OUT!

WE CAN'T TRY BY DAYLIGHT! THEY'LL SPOT US LIKE SITTIN' DUCKS! WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE A BREAK FOR IT TONIGHT! THAT MARSHAL'S GOT CUNNIN'—HE TURNED A FORT INTO A PRISON WITH ONE CHARGE OF DYNAMITE!



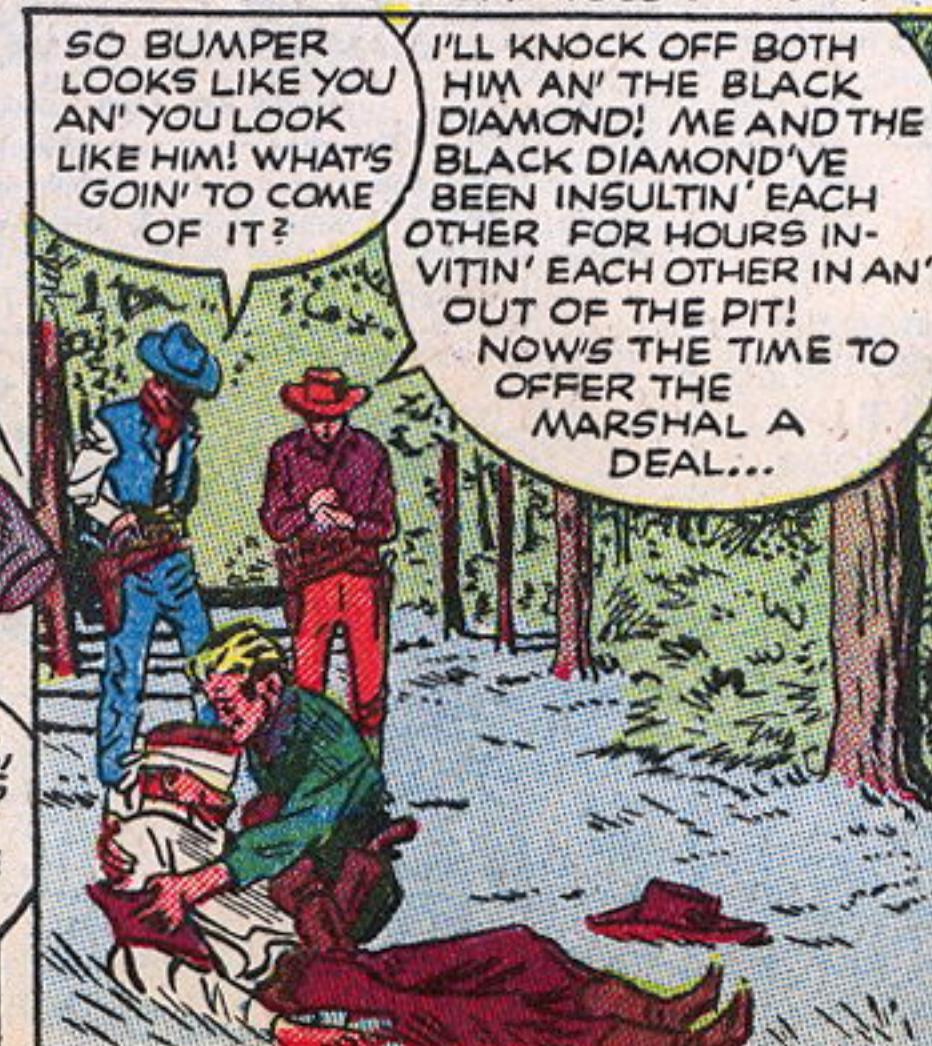
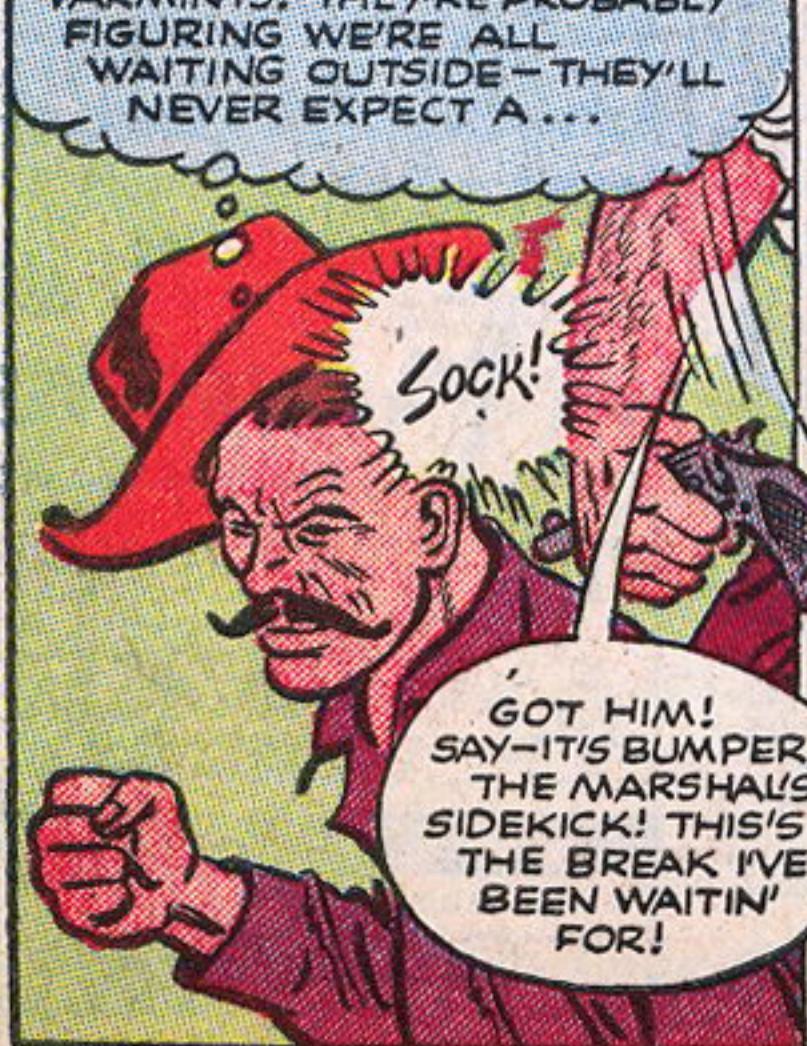
THAT NIGHT, AS DEADWOOD DAN SEEKS TO USE CANYON PASS...

PSSST...GIT BACK! SOMEBODY'S CRAWLIN' ALONG THE FLOOR OF THE PASS! CIRCLE AROUND AND GIT HIM FROM BEHIND!



BUT I THINK IT'S WORTH TRYING TO SURPRISE THOSE VARMINTS! THEY'RE PROBABLY FIGURING WE'RE ALL WAITING OUTSIDE—THEY'LL NEVER EXPECT A...

A HALF-HOUR LATER, AS THE UNCONSCIOUS BUMPER IS BLINDFOLDED AND HIS CLOTHING EXCHANGED FOR DEADWOOD DAN'S...



HEY, MARSHAL! I'D LIKE TO OFFER YOU A PROPOSITION THAT'LL SAVE BLOOD SPILLIN' ALL AROUND! A LONE DUEL—ME AGIN' YUH! IF I WIN, WE GO FREE! IF YOU GIT ME...WELL, WE ALL SURRENDER!



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

MOMENTS LATER, HAVING REVIVED THE BLIND-FOLDED BUMPER.

YOU WANT ME TO TELL THE BLACK DIAMOND YOU'LL SURRENDER IF YOU GET A FREE TRIAL! BUT YOU'D HAVE THAT ANYWAY!

JUST MAKE SURE YOU GO THROUGH THE PASS! TAKE OFF THAT BLINDFOLD, THOUGH, AND THE DEAL IS OFF!

THIS SLICKER WON'T FIND OUT HE'S WEARING MY CLOTHES UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!

SECONDS LATER, AS BUMPER STUMBLERS THROUGH THE PASS...

THERE'S FOSTER NOW!... OR RATHER, HE WAS FOSTER!

YYAAAAA!



BUT AS THE BLACK DIAMOND BENDS OVER HIS BUDDY'S BODY

GASP! IT... IT'S BUMPER DRESSED IN DEADWOOD DAN'S COSTUME! B... BUT HOW DID BUMPER GET HER... OOHHHH!

I GOT HIM! I KILLED THE BLACK DIAMOND! C'MON, GUYS! THE WAY IS CLEAR! TAKE IT ON TH' LAM!



BUT LUCKILY, THE BLACK DIAMOND HAS ONLY BEEN WINGED...

THE DOUBLE-CROSSING SKUNK! I COULD HAVE KILLED BUMPER! I'LL SHOW THEM NO MERCY NOW!

D... DAN! HE FOOLED US! HE AIN'T DE... EEAHHH!

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

SHORTLY AFTER...

YOU WERE LUCKY, MARSHAL, YOU ONLY GOT WINGED! BUMPER'S WOUNDED, BUT HE'LL MAKE IT ONCE HE GETS MEDICAL ATTENTION! BUT THE VARMINTS UP THERE, THEY'RE VULTURE MEAT!

LET IT BE A LESSON TO THOSE WHO WANT TO TAKE THE LAW INTO THEIR OWN HANDS - THEY'LL ALWAYS WIND UP THEMSELVES IN THE HANDS OF THE GRIM REAPER!

The End

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2 ME'S
is YOU?

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ARMED SISSY below
WAS ME
A FEW SHORT WEEKS AGO

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CHANCE
TO GET FOR
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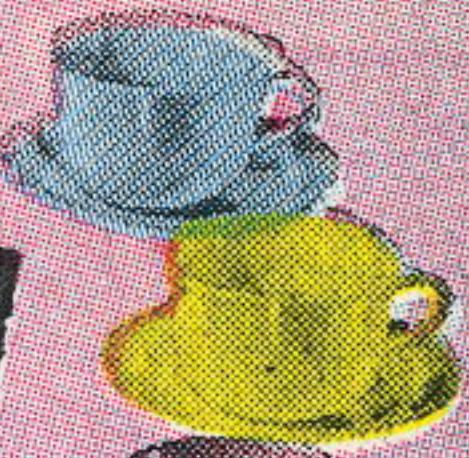
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